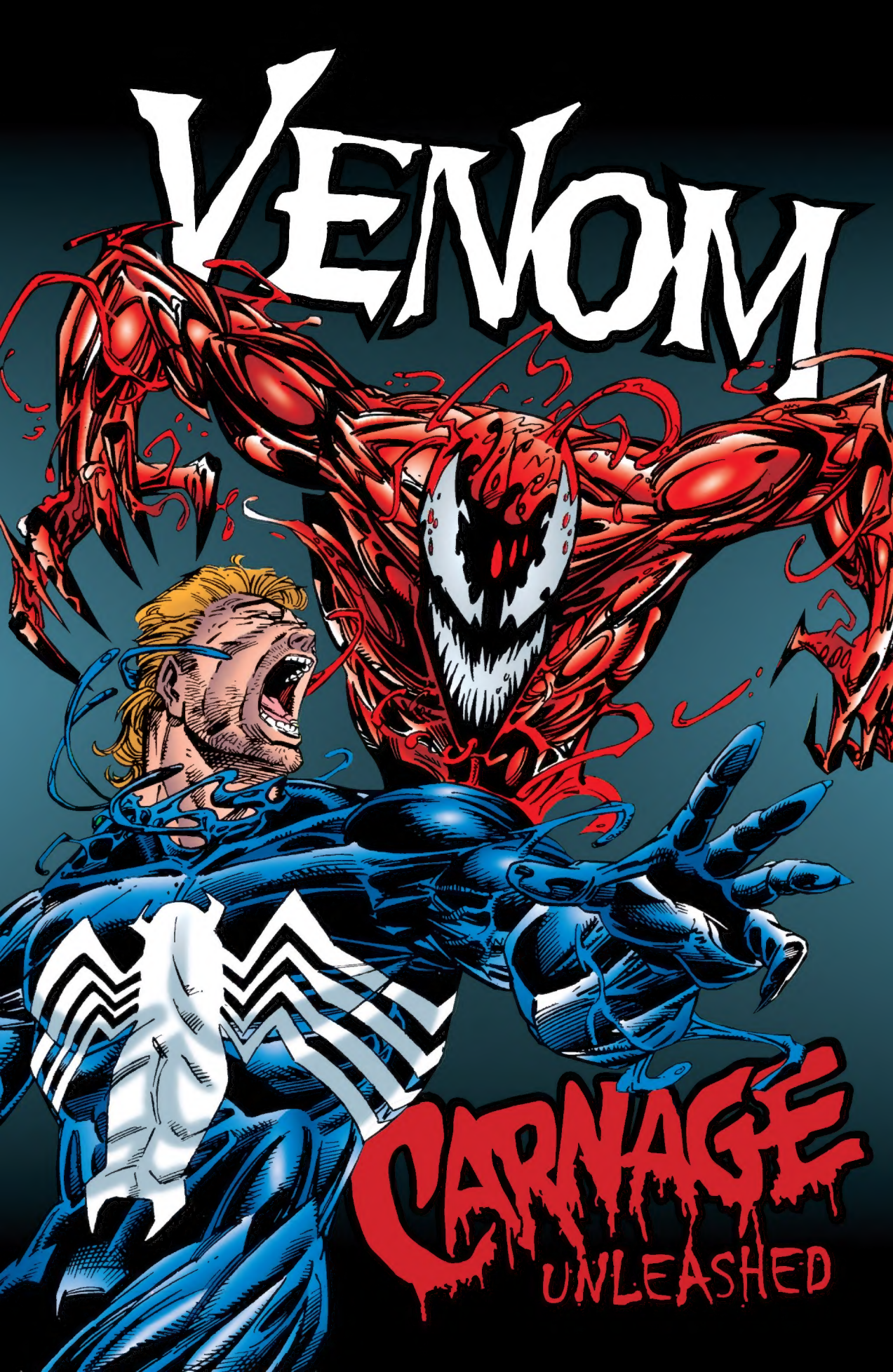

MARVEL
VENOM
CARNAGE
UNLEASHED


VENOM
CARNAGE
UNLEASHED



VENOM CARNAGE UNLEASHED

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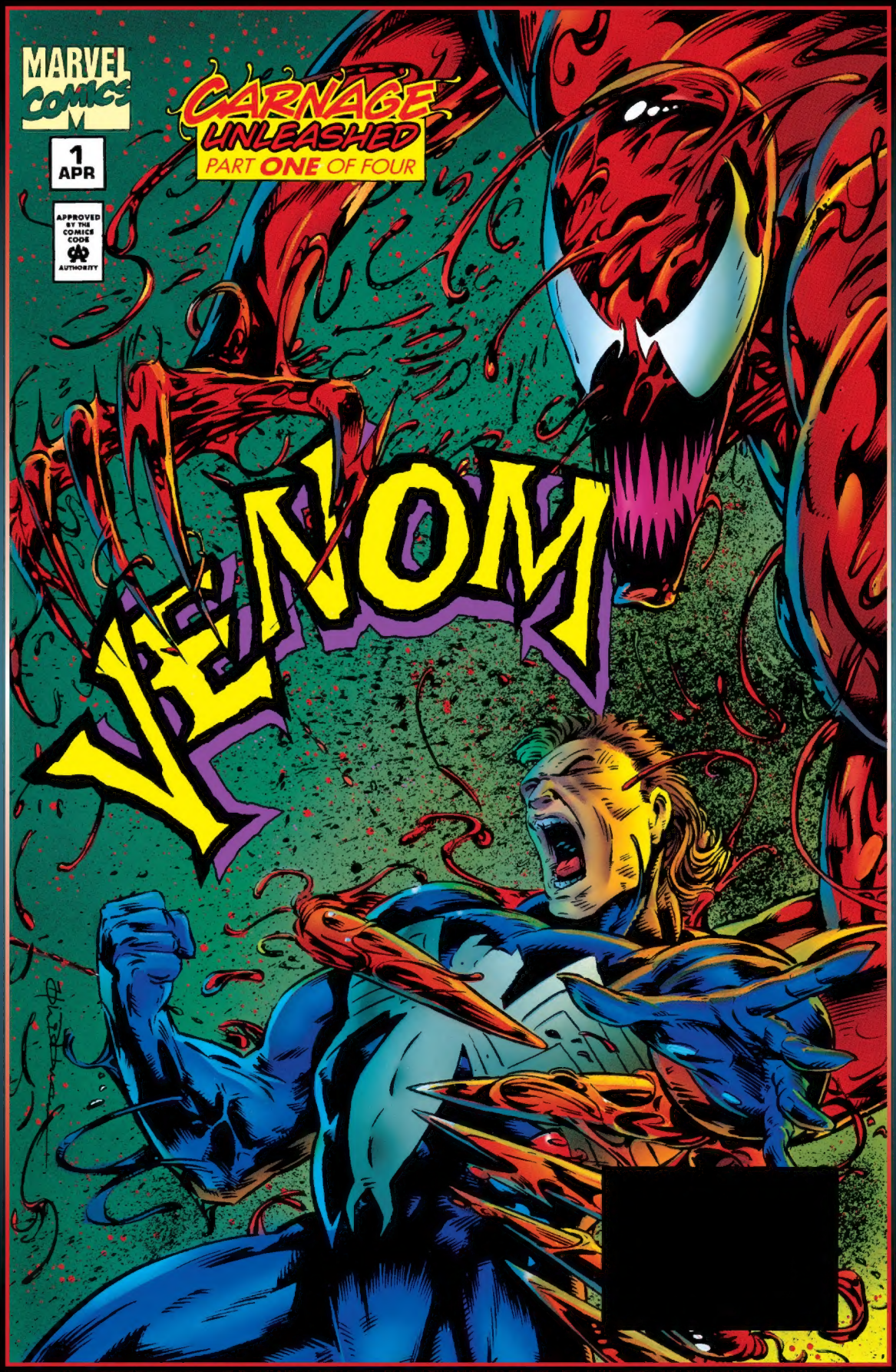
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MARVEL COMICS
1
APR
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART ONE OF FOUR
VENOM


CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
WHAT THE--?
MY NAME IS EDDIE BROCK AND I HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ALIEN.
WELL, IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT...
...IT'S WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL SYMBIOSIS.

TOGETHER, WE BECOME VENOM.

MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF US. WE USED TO GET A LOT OF UNDESERVED BAD PRESS...

...UNLIKE CARNAGE.

HE DESERVES EVERY SINGLE COLUMN INCH OF VITUPERATION AND MALEDICTION A CITY-DESK EDITOR CAN SLING AT HIM.

A VIDEO GAME???

A TRADEMARK???

KASADY, WE'LL RIP YOUR HEART OUT BEFORE WE SEE YOU CASH IN ON YOUR INFAMY!

CARNAGE UNLEASHED

SCHRRRIPPP

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

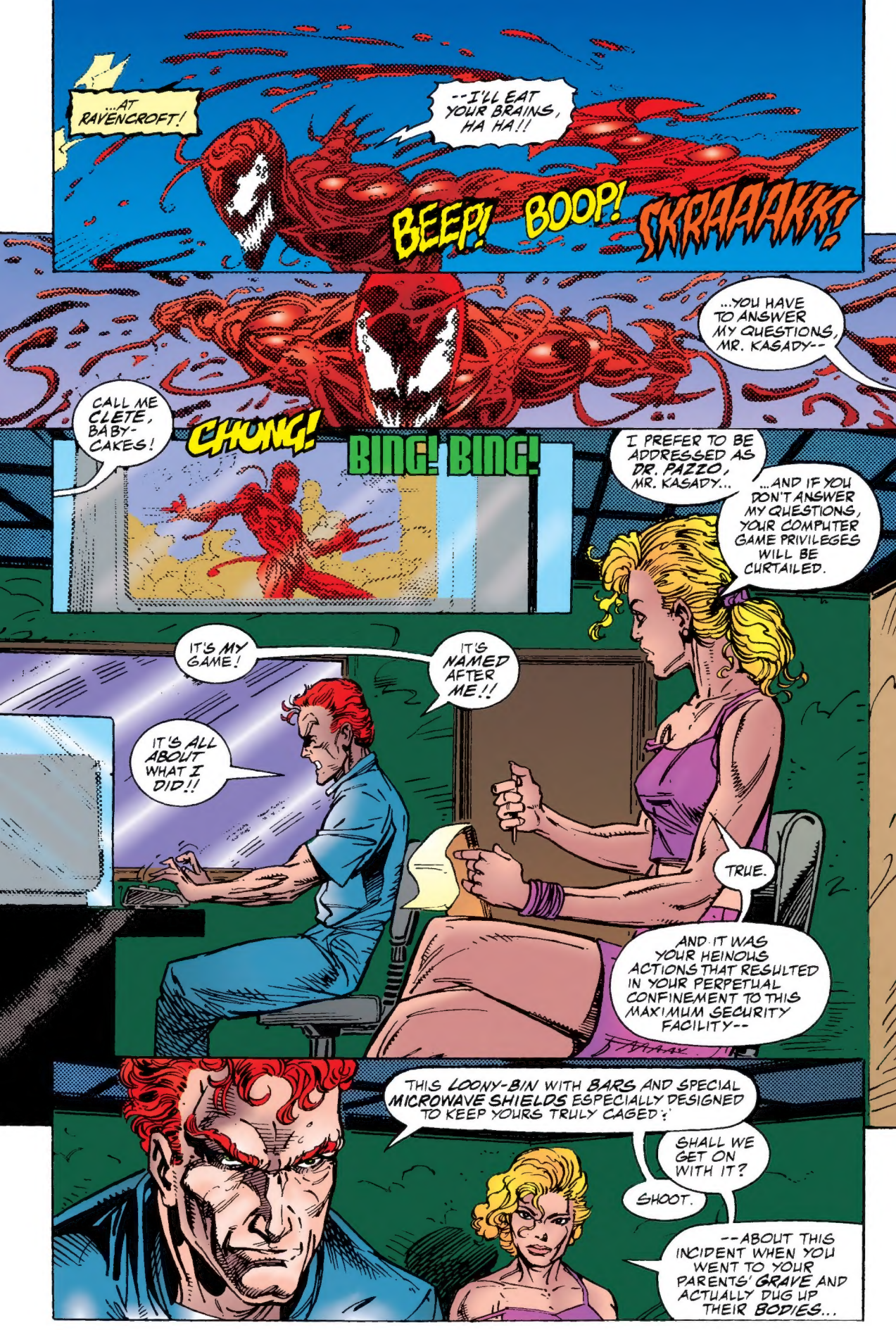
PART ONE:

THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE...

SCRIPT LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNS ANDREW WILDMAN
PENCIL FINISHES ART NICHOLS
INK FINISHES JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORING TOM SMITH
LETTERING KEN LOPEZ
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EDITOR IN CHIEF BOB BUDIANSKY


--NOW, WHERE WERE WE???
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU WERE TELLING US SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT OF "HAND OVER THE WALLET 'POPS' BEFORE WE GET NASTY!!!"
SO YOU GOT UGLY AND TORE UP A POSTER. BIG DEAL. WE STILL GOTTA GET PAID!
POP SOME NINES IN HIS FACE, MIKEY! SMOKE HIS SHOES!
OOOOH, YOU MUST BE TWO EXAMPLES OF THAT SOCIOPATHIC YOUTH THAT I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT...
...LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH TO LIVES OF CRIMINAL OVER-INDULGENCE BY VIOLENT T.V. SHOWS, COMIC BOOKS AND VIDEO GAMES--!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
EEEEHA!
WE DON'T BELIEVE FOR A SECOND THAT T.V., COMICS AND GAMES TWISTED YOUR LITTLE SICK-PUPPY BRAINS--
--I MEAN, WE WATCHED AND READ ALL THAT SAME STUFF--
UNGH!
POP
POP
POP

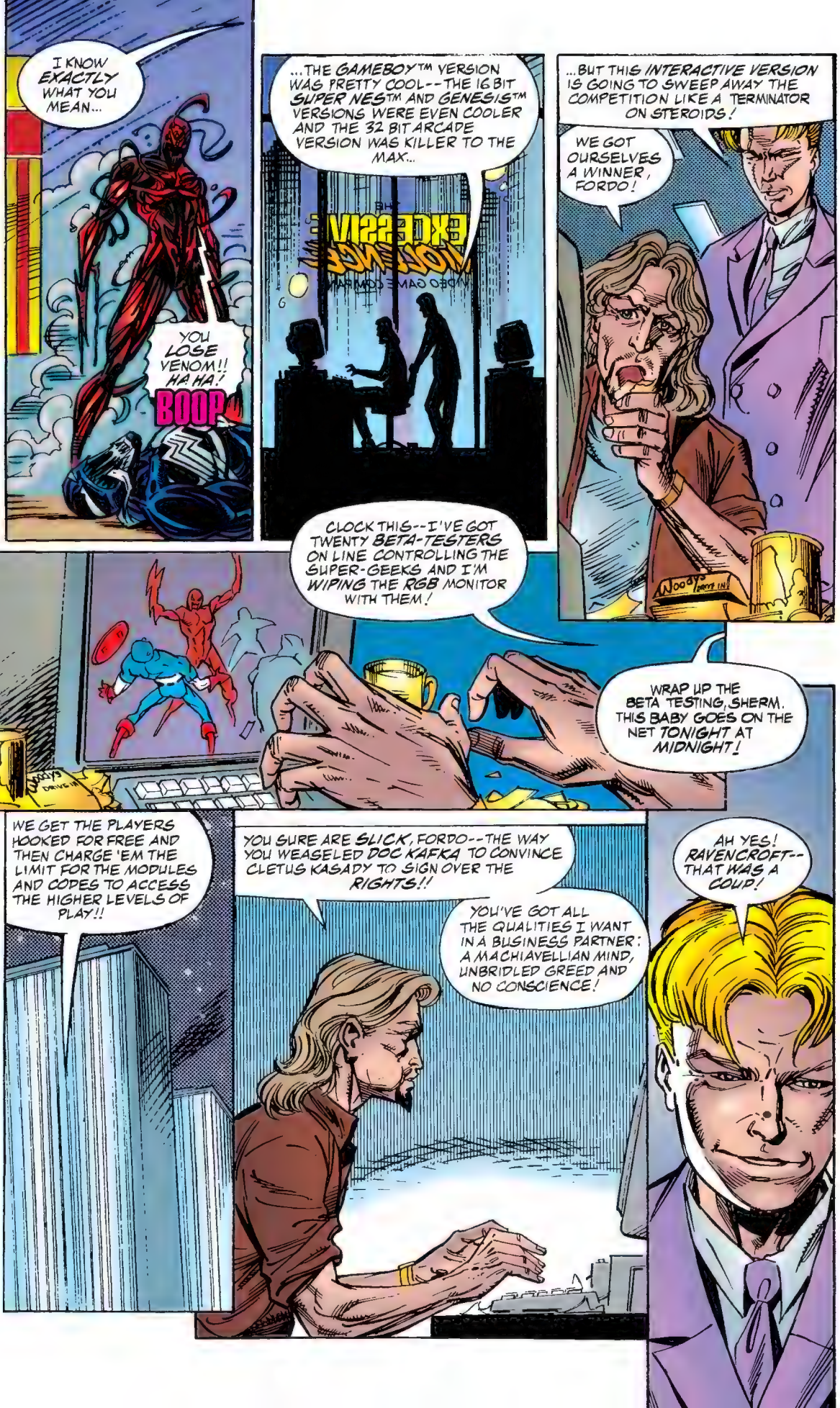

--AND LOOK HOW NICE WE TURNED OUT!
SCHRIPP
CRUNCH
SNAP
SPLOOT
HOO-HA!
HOW MANY INNOCENT LIVES HAVE WE SAVED BY RIDDING THE STREETS OF THOSE TWO PREDATORS?
AH, TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD IS TO MAKE THE SOUL SING!
WILLYA LOOKIT THAT?!
GOOD LORD! ;CHOKE!;
TIME TO TRADE IN THE WINDY CITY FOR THE BIG APPLE...
BUS TERMINAL
... TIME TO PAY A COURTESY CALL ON MR. CLETUS KASADY, A.K.A. CARNAGE...

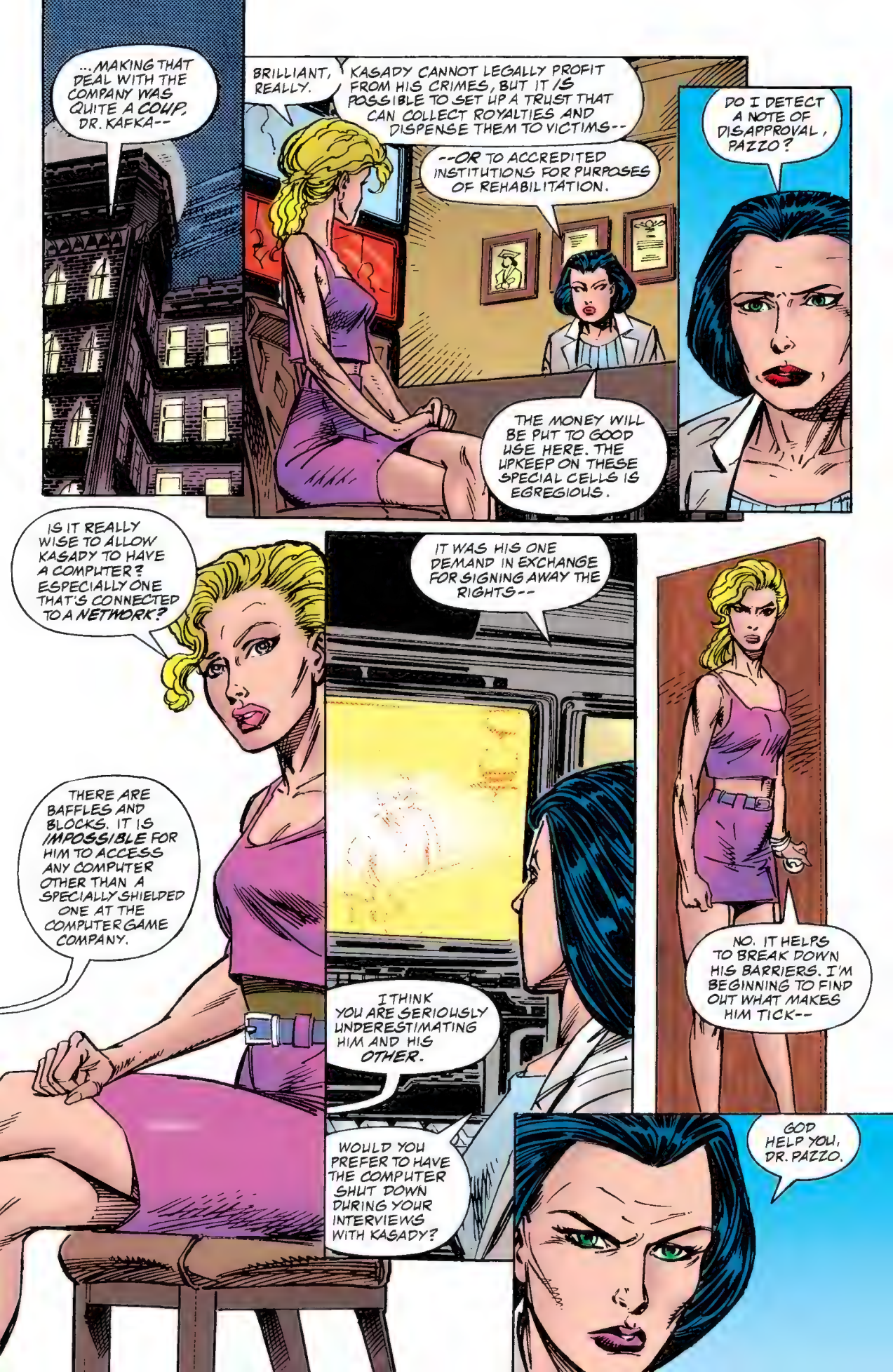

...AT RAVENCROFT!
--I'LL EAT YOUR BRAINS, HA HA!!
BEEP! BOOP! SKRAAAKK!
...YOU HAVE TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, MR. KASADY--
CALL ME CLETE, BABY-CAKES!
CHONG!
BING! BING!
I PREFER TO BE ADDRESSED AS DR. PAZZO, MR. KASADY...
...AND IF YOU DON'T ANSWER MY QUESTIONS, YOUR COMPUTER GAME PRIVILEGES WILL BE CURTAILED.
IT'S MY GAME!
IT'S NAMED AFTER ME!!
IT'S ALL ABOUT WHAT I DID!!
TRUE.
AND IT WAS YOUR HEINOUS ACTIONS THAT RESULTED IN YOUR PERPETUAL CONFINEMENT TO THIS MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY--
THIS LOONY-BIN WITH BARS AND SPECIAL MICROWAVE SHIELDS ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO KEEP YOURS TRULY CAGED!
SHALL WE GET ON WITH IT?
SHOOT.
--ABOUT THIS INCIDENT WHEN YOU WENT TO YOUR PARENTS' GRAVE AND ACTUALLY DUG UP THEIR BODIES...


SHE LIED TO MY DAD, YOU KNOW--
WAS THIS YOUR MOTHER?
YEAH.
SHE MADE UP THINGS ABOUT ME, TRIED TO GET ME IN TROUBLE, ALL BECAUSE SHE LOVED THAT STUPID DOG OF HERS MORE THAN ME!
HER DOG? YOU NEVER MENTIONED A DOG BEFORE--
IT DIED.
IT DID SOMETHING NASTY IN THE BASEMENT, YOU SEE...
CLETUS! HAVE YOU SEEN FIFI? WHAT WAS ALL THAT YOWLING ABOUT?? WHERE--
OH, NOOOOO!
THAT STUPID DOG SURE MADE A MESS IN THE BASEMENT...
...AND OF COURSE, IT WAS ME WHO GOT BLAMED!


THE SELECTION OF SEAT-MATES ON A BUS ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE A HOBSON'S CHOICE...
♪ EMPTINESS AND DESOLATION, LONELINESS AND ISOLATION; THAT'S THE STUFF OF MY LIFE AND IT SUCKS! ♪
BEEP BOOP
I'LL EAT YOUR BRAIN! HAHAHAHA!
SNORING NUNS, DRUNKEN SAILORS, BRATTY KIDS AND POETS OF THE WIDE AND OPEN ROAD.
MUSCLES
♪ APATHY AND RESIGNATION, AGONY AND DESECRATION, MIGHT AS WELL GET RUN DOWN BY A TRUCK! ♪
I THINK I MADE A BIG MISTAKE IN NOT OPTING FOR THE SNORING NUN.
♪ THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM ENNUI, JUST ENDLESS HOURS OF BOREDOM, THEN WE-- ♪
THAT'S THE LIMIT!
YOU CAN'T RHYME ENNUI WITH THEN WE!
OF COURSE I CAN--
--I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT!


I'M GOING TO MAKE MUSIC THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!
I'M GOING TO WRITE SONGS THAT SPEAK OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE JUST LIKE ME AND MAKE THEM SIT UP AND LISTEN!
THOSE LYRICS SOUND PRETTY DEFEATIST TO ME, KID--
IT'S KIRSTIN, NOT "KID"--AND THE NEXT VERSE IS ALL ABOUT DRAGGING YOURSELF UP FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR!
AND HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO DO THAT?
SOMETIMES ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TOUCH SOMEBODY AND TELL THEM THAT THE SUN IS GOING TO COME UP IN THE MORNING...
BEEP!
CHALK UP ONE FOR CARNAGE!! HAHA!
"...YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"


I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN...
YOU LOSE VENOM!! HA HA!
BOOP
...THE GAMEBOY™ VERSION WAS PRETTY COOL--THE 16 BIT SUPER NES™ AND GENESIS™ VERSIONS WERE EVEN COOLER AND THE 32 BIT ARCADE VERSION WAS KILLER TO THE MAX...
...BUT THIS INTERACTIVE VERSION IS GOING TO SWEEP AWAY THE COMPETITION LIKE A TERMINATOR ON STEROIDS!
WE GOT OURSELVES A WINNER, FORDO!
CLOCK THIS--I'VE GOT TWENTY BETA-TESTERS ON LINE CONTROLLING THE SUPER-GEEKS AND I'M WIPING THE RGB MONITOR WITH THEM!
WRAP UP THE BETA TESTING, SHERM. THIS BABY GOES ON THE NET TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT!
WE GET THE PLAYERS HOOKED FOR FREE AND THEN CHARGE 'EM THE LIMIT FOR THE MODULES AND CODES TO ACCESS THE HIGHER LEVELS OF PLAY!!
YOU SURE ARE SLICK, FORDO--THE WAY YOU WEASELED DOC KAFKA TO CONVINCE CLETUS KASADY TO SIGN OVER THE RIGHTS!!
YOU'VE GOT ALL THE QUALITIES I WANT IN A BUSINESS PARTNER: A MACHIAVELLIAN MIND, UNBRIDLED GREED AND NO CONSCIENCE!
AH YES! RAVENCROFT--THAT WAS A COUP!

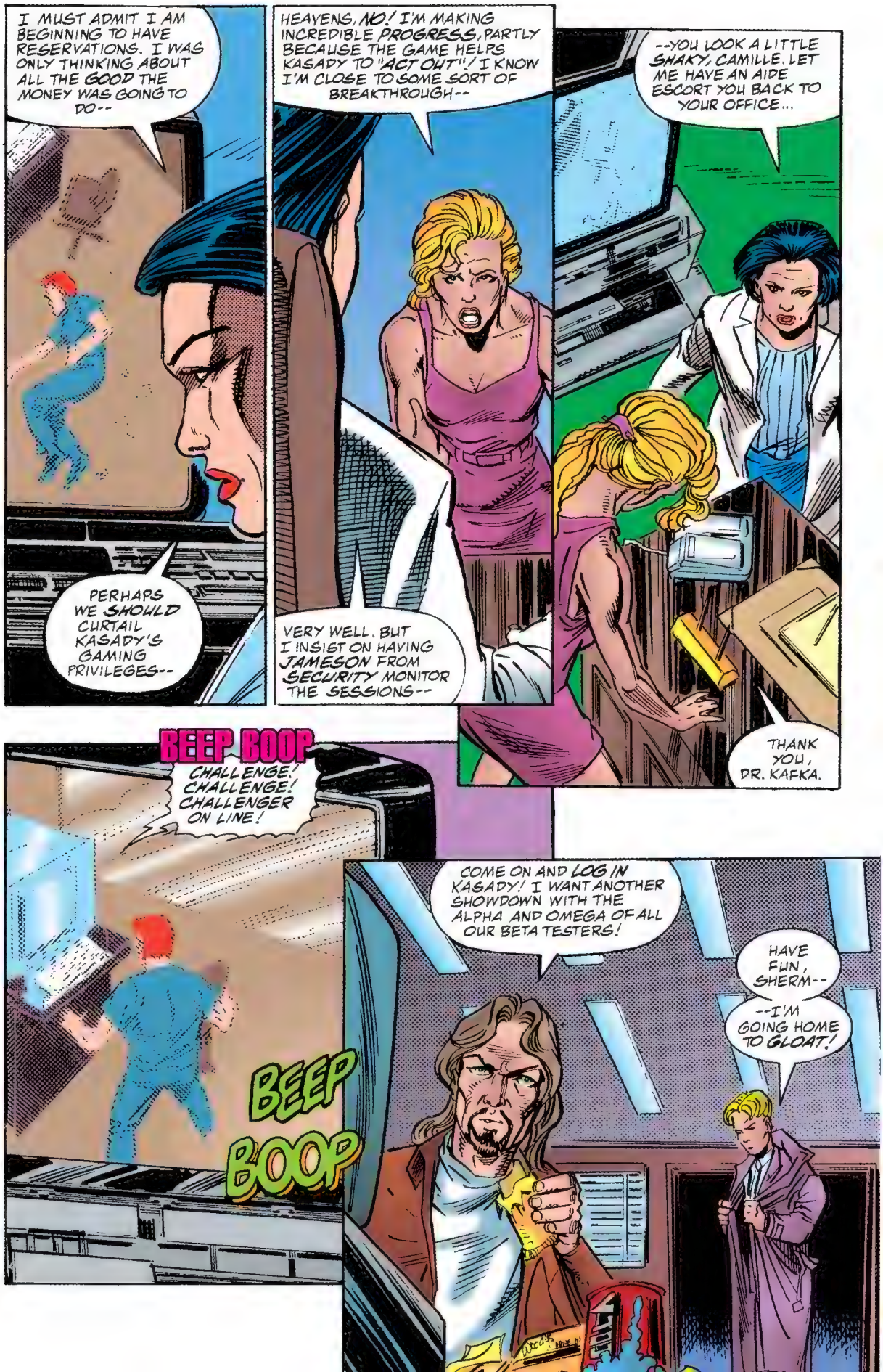

...MAKING THAT DEAL WITH THE COMPANY WAS QUITE A COUP, DR. KAFKA--
BRILLIANT, REALLY.
KASADY CANNOT LEGALLY PROFIT FROM HIS CRIMES, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE TO SET UP A TRUST THAT CAN COLLECT ROYALTIES AND DISPENSE THEM TO VICTIMS--
--OR TO ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF REHABILITATION.
THE MONEY WILL BE PUT TO GOOD USE HERE. THE UPKEEP ON THESE SPECIAL CELLS IS EGREGIOUS.
DO I DETECT A NOTE OF DISAPPROVAL, PAZZO?
IS IT REALLY WISE TO ALLOW KASADY TO HAVE A COMPUTER? ESPECIALLY ONE THAT'S CONNECTED TO A NETWORK?
IT WAS HIS ONE DEMAND IN EXCHANGE FOR SIGNING AWAY THE RIGHTS--
THERE ARE BAFFLES AND BLOCKS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO ACCESS ANY COMPUTER OTHER THAN A SPECIALLY SHIELDED ONE AT THE COMPUTER GAME COMPANY.
I THINK YOU ARE SERIOUSLY UNDERESTIMATING HIM AND HIS OTHER.
NO. IT HELPS TO BREAK DOWN HIS BARRIERS. I'M BEGINNING TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES HIM TICK--
WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE THE COMPUTER SHUT DOWN DURING YOUR INTERVIEWS WITH KASADY?
GOD HELP YOU, DR. PAZZO.


♫ THE SUN'S COMING UP LIKE A BIG BALL OF YELLOW, IT'S WARMING MY ELBOWS, IMPROVING MY MELLOW--♫
IT'S TOO EARLY TO BE SO HAPPY, KIRSTIN.
THE REST OF HUMANITY REALLY HAS IT IN FOR DIEHARD POLLYANNAS LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW THAT?
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO BE SAD, MR. BLOCK!
LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO WASTE ANY OF IT BEING ANGRY OR FEELING MEAN! LIFE IS TOO SHORT NOT TO BE HONEST WITH THE WORLD--FREDDY? WAS THAT YOUR FIRST NAME?
UH, YEAH. RIGHT. FREDDY. FREDDY BLOCK.
THERE USED TO BE A LOT OF MEANNESS IN MY LIFE UNTIL I DISCOVERED POETRY AND THAT'S HOW I MET CLIVE...
I STARTED CORRESPONDING WITH HIM THROUGH A POETRY JOURNAL. ISN'T HE CUTE? HE IS MY TRUE SOUL MATE. I'M ON MY WAY TO MEET HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME. HE LIVES IN THE EAST VILLAGE AND HE JUST GOT PUBLISHED IN "SENSITIVE SKIN"!
THE SKEEVY LITTLE SLIME-BUCKET DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO COVER UP HIS SCABBED-OVER TRACK MARKS.
HOW DO I TELL LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE HERE THAT HER SOUL MATE IS A STONE JUNKIE?


HOW DID YOUR MOTHER REACT TO YOUR KILL--UH, THE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF HER DOG?
SHE LOST IT, DOC. WENT BALLISTIC...
BASH! BOOP! BOP! BOP!
BRUISE MY KNUCKLES WITH YOUR FACE, WEB-SLINGER! HAHA!
BOOSH!
...SHE REALLY WAS MISSING A FEW CHAIRS FROM HER DINETTE SET, YOU KNOW...
CLEEEETUS!!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE????
"SHE WAS ALWAYS TRYING TO ATTACH THE BLAME FOR THE THINGS THAT WENT WRONG IN HER LIFE TO SOMEBODY ELSE!
"SHE HAD TOO MANY DEVILS RUNNING AROUND INSIDE HER BRAIN...
THWOP
OWWWW!
"...AND SHE NEEDED SOME WAY TO LET THEM OUT!
NRRRRRR
NOOOOO!

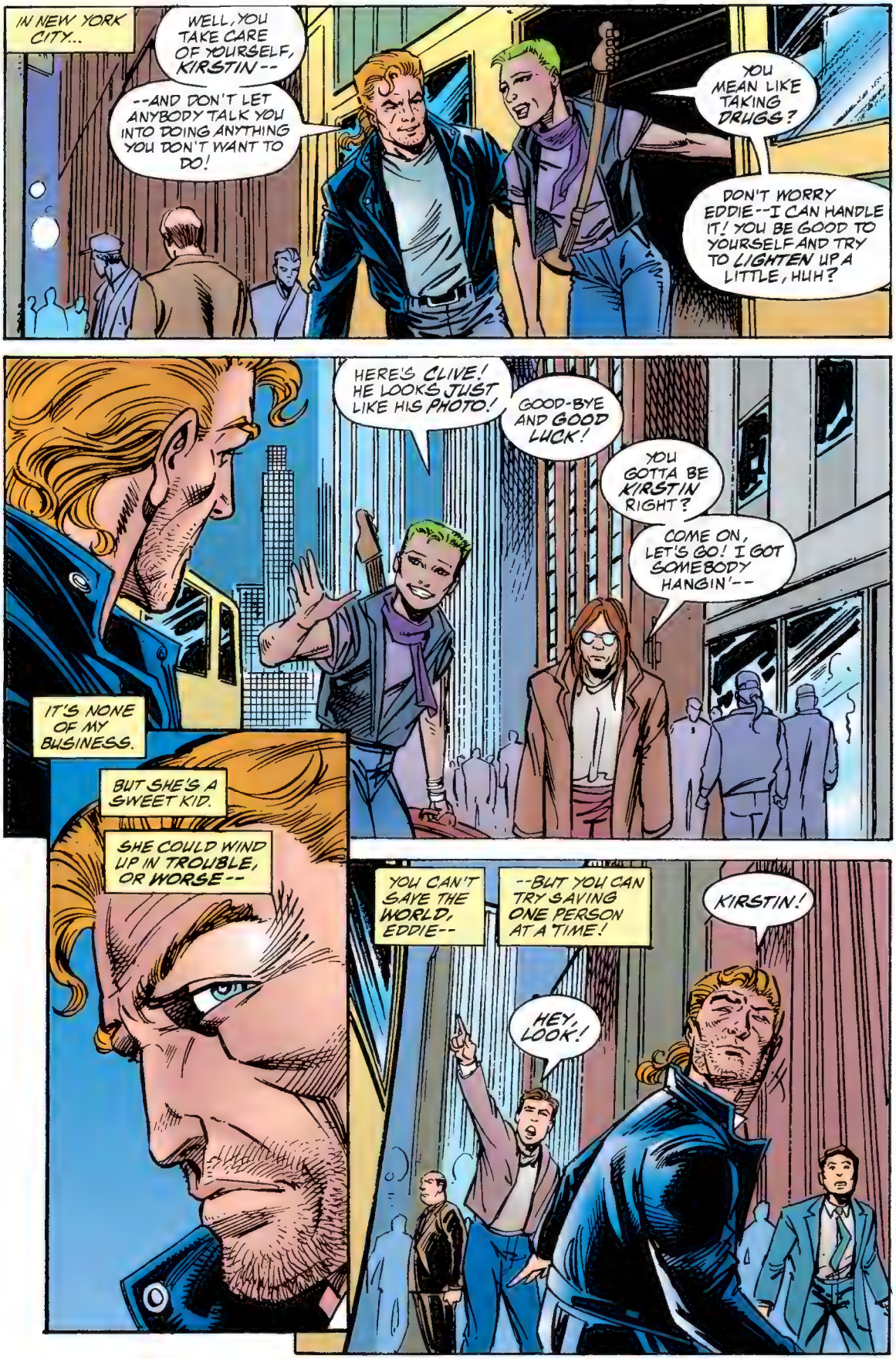

"I THINK SHE WAS STILL UPSET WITH ME ABOUT THE TIME I DROPPED THE TV INTO THE TUB WHILE SHE WAS TAKING A BATH.
"WHAT WAS THE BIG DEAL...?
YOU LITTLE MONSTER!!
"...SHE MANAGED TO PULL THE PLUG OUT IN TIME!
WHAT THE--
"LUCKY FOR ME, DAD CAME HOME WHEN HE DID...
"...HE SURE WAS SURPRISED WHEN I TOLD THE CORS THAT HE KILLED MOM FOR NO REASON AT ALL--"
--YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD HIM SCREAMING AT ME ALL DURING THE TRIAL!
HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?
FEEL?
I FELT PUMPED!!!
I FELT LIKE A THOUSAND TONS OF TNT!
I FELT LIKE A RED HOT POKER IN THE FURNACE OF HATE!!!


KAFKA! HIT THE MICROWAVE SHIELDS!
SSSRREEEE
EEEEYOWW!!
TURN OFF THE HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR, DR. KAFKA...!
...THAT WAS QUITE DISTURBING.
PROJECTING YOURSELF IN A VIRTUAL FIELD INTO HIS CELL HAS ITS DRAWBACKS, CAMILLE...
...IT'S VERY EASY TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE NOT REALLY IN THERE WITH HIM!
CLICK


I MUST ADMIT I AM BEGINNING TO HAVE RESERVATIONS. I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT ALL THE GOOD THE MONEY WAS GOING TO DO--
PERHAPS WE SHOULD CURTAIL KASADY'S GAMING PRIVILEGES--
HEAVENS, NO! I'M MAKING INCREDIBLE PROGRESS, PARTLY BECAUSE THE GAME HELPS KASADY TO "ACT OUT"! I KNOW I'M CLOSE TO SOME SORT OF BREAKTHROUGH--
VERY WELL. BUT I INSIST ON HAVING JAMESON FROM SECURITY MONITOR THE SESSIONS--
--YOU LOOK A LITTLE SHAKY, CAMILLE. LET ME HAVE AN AIDE ESCORT YOU BACK TO YOUR OFFICE...
THANK YOU, DR. KAFKA.
BEEP BOOP
CHALLENGE! CHALLENGE! CHALLENGER ON LINE!
BEEP BOOP
COME ON AND LOG IN KASADY! I WANT ANOTHER SHOWDOWN WITH THE ALPHA AND OMEGA OF ALL OUR BETA TESTERS!
HAVE FUN, SHERM--
--I'M GOING HOME TO GLOAT!


HA! SHERMY WANTS TO PLAY, HUH?
I BET YOU FEEL ALL NICE AND SAFE BEHIND YOUR SHIELDED AND BLOCKED CPU, DON'TCHA?
BUT YOU SET UP THE CODES AND RESTRICTIONS TO KEEP OUT AN ORDINARY HACKER--
ALL RIIIIIGHT! NOW, WE'RE DOWN TO PARTY!
CARNAGE LOGGED IN; READY TO PLAY
--NOT AN ENTITY THAT CAN EXTRUDE ITSELF AS A MOLECULAR FILAMENT AND TRAVEL ALONG COMMUNICATION CABLES--
--I JUST CHANGED THE RULES, SHERM THE GERM--!
GUH! GUH!


CARNAGE SAYS; GO OVER TO THE UNSHIELDED CPU AND HACK YOUR WAY INTO THE RAVENCROFT SECURITY SYSTEM!!
NO WAY! I CAN'T DO THAT!!
DO IT, SHERM!
I CAN ARRANGE TO HAVE SOME UGLY STUFF HAPPEN TO YOUR NERVE ENDINGS!!!
ARRRRRGH!
DO IT, SHERMY!!
HACK YOUR WAY IN AND OPEN MY CELL DOOR!!!
I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING!


IN NEW YORK CITY...
WELL, YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, KIRSTIN--
--AND DON'T LET ANYBODY TALK YOU INTO DOING ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO DO!
YOU MEAN LIKE TAKING DRUGS?
DON'T WORRY EDDIE--I CAN HANDLE IT! YOU BE GOOD TO YOURSELF AND TRY TO LIGHTEN UP A LITTLE, HUH?
HERE'S CLIVE! HE LOOKS JUST LIKE HIS PHOTO!
GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK!
YOU GOTTA BE KIRSTIN RIGHT?
COME ON, LET'S GO! I GOT SOMEBODY HANGIN'--
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
BUT SHE'S A SWEET KID.
SHE COULD WIND UP IN TROUBLE, OR WORSE--
YOU CAN'T SAVE THE WORLD, EDDIE--
--BUT YOU CAN TRY SAVING ONE PERSON AT A TIME!
KIRSTIN!
HEY, LOOK!


AIIEEEEEE!
KEE-RASH
HOLY--
--SMOKE!!
PA-THOC
YMP!
THOSE TENDRILS--
--CARNAGE!!
WOW! WE'RE TAKING A CAB?
CAN'T KEEP THE MAN WAITING, BABE--
--GOT'TA MAKE THE CONNECTION, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
WHERE TO, BUD?
ST. MARKS PLACE, THE THIRD EYE CAFE--
WAIT--!
I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR THIS!
I HAVE TO DEAL WITH CARNAGE!


AWOOOGAH!
AWOOOGAH!
WHAT'S GOING ON--?
--WHY IS THE ALARM GOING OFF?
THE WHOLE SECURITY SYSTEM COMPUTER IS DOWN!
SOME OF THE SPECIAL CELLS MAY BE UNLOCKED!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE SYSTEM HAS BACK-UPS FOR ITS BACK-UPS!
SOMEBODY HACKED THEIR WAY THROUGH AND DISABLED EVERYTHING!
ACTIVATE THE SUPPRESSION DEVICES--
THEY AIN'T WORKING EITHER, SWEET-CAKES!
WHO--?


YOU KNOOOOOW WHO IT IS, SWEETUMS!!
IT'S YOUR EVER-LOVIN', TOTALLY UNFRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD--
CARNAGE!
NEXT ISSUE: CARNAGE AND VENOM, HEAD TO HEAD!


MARVEL COMICS
2 MAY
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE UNLEASHED
PART TWO OF FOUR


WE'RE ONLY BACK IN NEW YORK CITY FOR FIVE MINUTES AND ALREADY WE'VE GOT CARNAGE DEFENESTRATING CITIZENS FROM SKYSCRAPERS!
WE KNOW YOU'RE UP THERE, CARNAGE!
WE CAN SEE YOUR NASTY LITTLE TENDRILS RETRACTING THROUGH THE SHATTERED WINDOW!
WHERE DID HE FALL FROM?
UP THERE. THE HEADQUARTERS OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES...
YOU KNOW THEIR MOTTO, "WE MAY BE BRUTAL, BUT AT LEAST WE'RE NON-REPLICABLE!"
...TIME TO ROCK AND ROLL, KIDDIES...!!
HUH?
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE

...IT'S PAYBACK TIME AT RAVENCROFT--!!!

--TIME TO RIP OFF FACES AND SUCK OUT BRAINS!!

EEYAAA!

SSZZRIP

SHUNNG

SAID THE JOKER TO THE THIEF

.SCRIPTED FURIOUSLY BY LARRY HAMA
PENCIL BREAKDOWNED MANIACALLY BY ANDREW WILDMAN
FINISHED INKED FURIOUSLY BY JOE RUBINSTEIN
COLORED VEHEMENTLY BY TOM SMITH
LETTERED SAVAGELY BY KEN LOPEZ
EDITED CONTENTIOUSLY BY ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR--DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR IN CHIEF--BOB BUDIANSKY

Presented by **STAN LEE**

CARNAGE! HE'S BACK IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY ASYLUM, BUT HOW COULD THAT BE WHEN WE JUST SAW THE SYMBIOTE TENDRILS HERE!

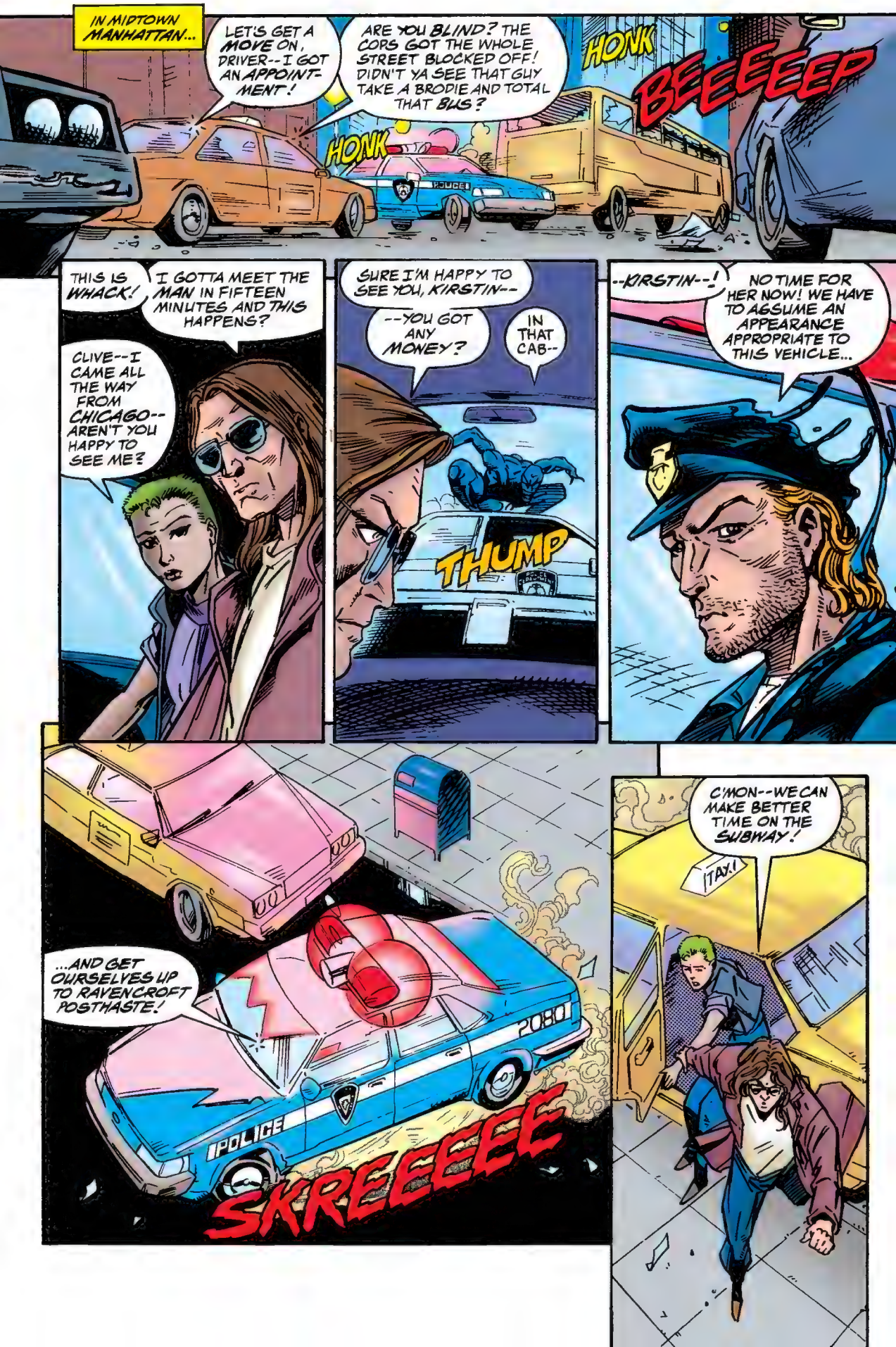
THEY WERE DISAPPEARING INTO THE COMPUTER MONITOR!

COULD THAT MURDEROUS MANIAC HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY FOR HIS OTHER TO TRAVEL THROUGH THE PHONE LINES VIA A MODEM??

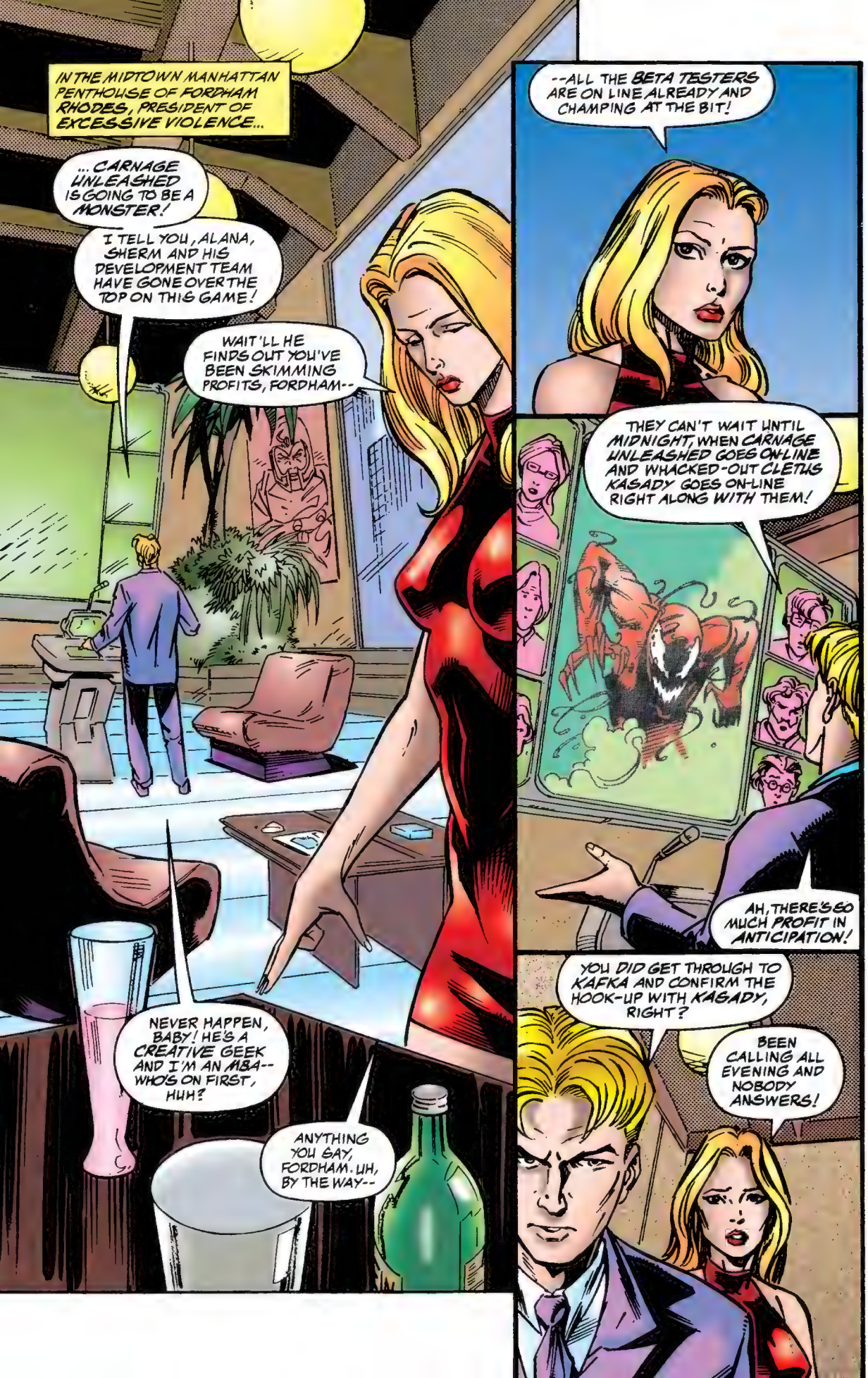
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE


EEEYOW!
YOU BOYS ARE STARTING TO GET ME BURNED!
COL. JAMESON-- THE NEW MICROWAVE HEAT PROJECTORS ARE DOING THE TRICK--
--HE'S RETREATING BACK TO HIS CELL!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, DR. KAFKA? WE'VE GOT HIM CORNERED!
IF WE CAN BRING CONCENTRATED FIRE TO BEAR ON HIM, WE CAN FINISH HIM OFF FOR GOOD--
THAT'S COLD-BLOODED MURDER! YOU CAN'T LET HIM DO THAT, KAFKA--
PAZZO IS CORRECT. WE MUST HAVE OTHER OPTIONS. JAMESON?
WHAT IF HE GETS LOOSE, DR. KAFKA?! WE'LL BE RESPONSI-BLE--
I'M THE DIRECTOR, I TAKE THE HEAT.
KASADY MIGHT BE CONTAINED IF WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM...!


...APPARENTLY, THAT'S HOW CLETUS KASADY, AKA. CARNAGE, MANAGED TO EFFECT HIS ESCAPE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
I SHOULD HAVE NEVER MADE THAT DEAL WITH THE VIDEO GAME COMPANY--
RAVENCROFT
DR. KAFKA, MY SECURITY PEOPLE HAVE THE BUILDING COMPLETELY SURROUNDED AND SEALED...
...YOU MAY TAKE THE HEAT, BUT AS DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, I HAVE A DUTY TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS FROM THE DEPRADATIONS OF YOUR CHARGES!
YOU HAVE ONE HOUR, AND THEN WE TAKE HIM DOWN!
...DR. PAZZO?
YES?
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASSIST ME. TRY TO GET AN OUTSIDE PHONE LINE AND CONTACT SHERMAN OAKES AT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE --
NO DICE, KAFKA-CAKES! OL' SHERM THE GERM JUST MADE A BIG SPLASH IN NEW YORK--
--ALL OVER THE TOP OF A BUS.!!
HOO-HA!! THEY COULD HAVE CHAR-BROILED ME TO A CRISP WHEN THEY HAD THE CHANCE, BUT NOW, THEY'VE BLOWN IT!
NOW COMES THE GOOD PART--
--WHERE I WIN!


IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
LET'S GET A MOVE ON, DRIVER--I GOT AN APPOINTMENT!
ARE YOU BLIND? THE COPS GOT THE WHOLE STREET BLOCKED OFF! DIDN'T YA SEE THAT GUY TAKE A BRODIE AND TOTAL THAT BUS?
HONK
HONK
BEEEEEEP
POLICE
THIS IS WHACK!
I GOTTA MEET THE MAN IN FIFTEEN MINUTES AND THIS HAPPENS?
CLIVE--I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM CHICAGO--AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO SEE ME?
SURE I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU, KIRSTIN--
--YOU GOT ANY MONEY?
IN THAT CAB--
THUMP
--KIRSTIN--!
NO TIME FOR HER NOW! WE HAVE TO ASSUME AN APPEARANCE APPROPRIATE TO THIS VEHICLE...
...AND GET OURSELVES UP TO RAVENCROFT POSTHASTE!
POLICE
2080
SKREEEEE
C'MON--WE CAN MAKE BETTER TIME ON THE SUBWAY!
TAXI


WE KNEW IT AS SOON AS WE SAW THAT VIDEO GAME POSTER IN CHICAGO--
--CARNAGE IS JUST USING THESE PEOPLE TO GET FREE!
HEY! YOU CRAZY--
SOMEHOW, HIS SYMBIOTE CAN EXTEND ITSELF ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL ALONG THE PHONE LINES THAT CONNECT THE COMPUTER AT RAVENCROFT WITH THE COMPUTER AT THE GAME COMPANY--
BEEP
VROOM
AWOOOO
THEORETICALLY, CARNAGE CAN SEND HIS OTHER ANYPLACE THAT HAS A TERMINAL AND A MODEM!
WEST SIDE HIGHWAY NORTH
MIGHT AS WELL CHECK THE RADIO...
--AND THIS JUST IN FROM THE NEWSROOM: AN INFORMED SOURCE SAYS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A NEWS BLACKOUT AT THE RAVENCROFT MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE--
CLICK
OF COURSE THERE'S A BLACKOUT, STUPID--!!
POLICE
--THEY DON'T WANT TO ADMIT THAT CARNAGE IS LOOSE!!!

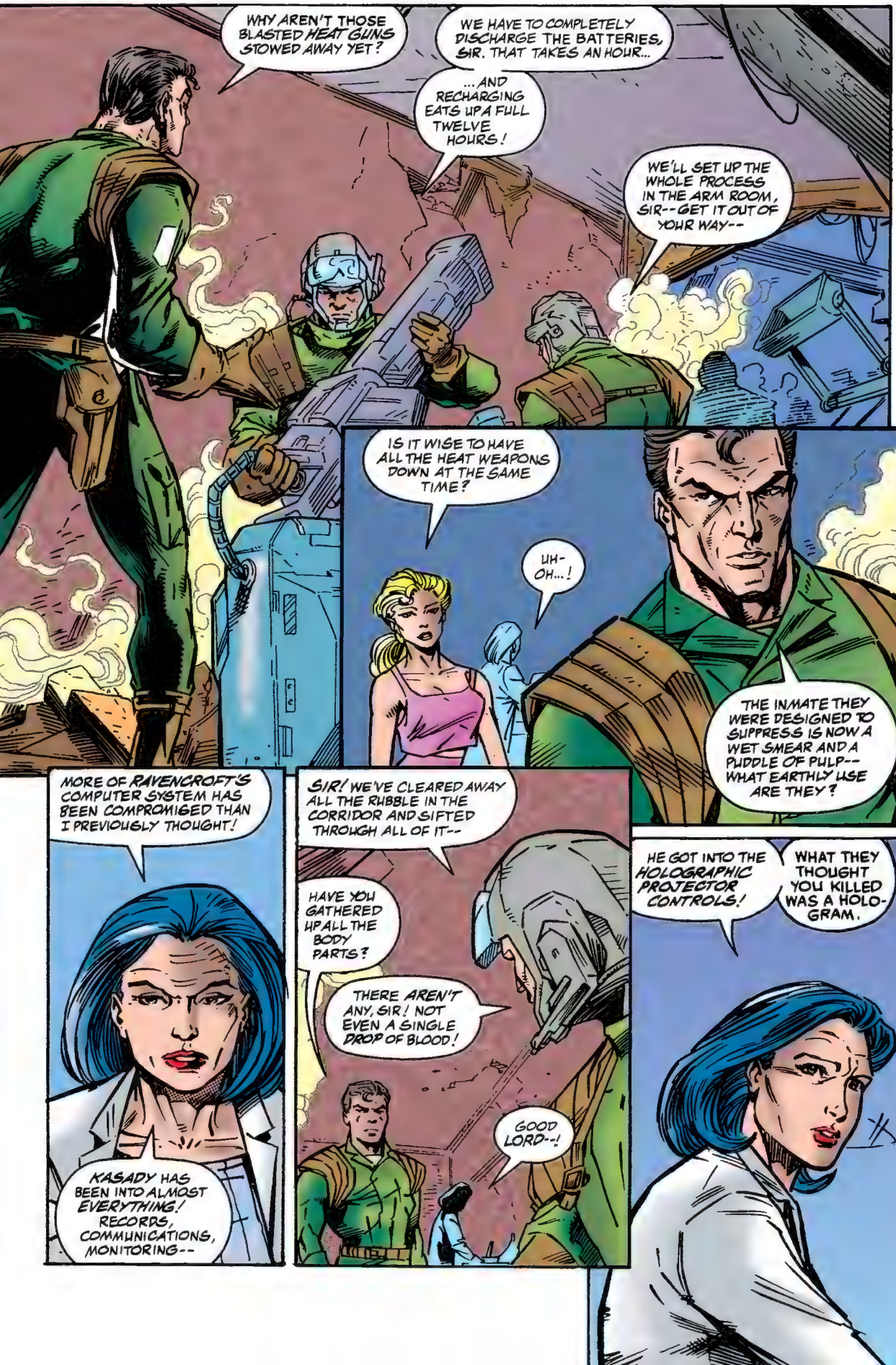

IN THE MIDTOWN MANHATTAN PENTHOUSE OF FORDHAM RHODES, PRESIDENT OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE...
...CARNAGE UNLEASHED IS GOING TO BE A MONSTER!
I TELL YOU, ALANA, SHERM AND HIS DEVELOPMENT TEAM HAVE GONE OVER THE TOP ON THIS GAME!
WAIT'LL HE FINDS OUT YOU'VE BEEN SKIMMING PROFITS, FORDHAM--
NEVER HAPPEN, BABY! HE'S A CREATIVE GEEK AND I'M AN MBA--WHO'S ON FIRST, HUH?
ANYTHING YOU SAY, FORDHAM. UH, BY THE WAY--
--ALL THE BETA TESTERS ARE ON LINE ALREADY AND CHAMPING AT THE BIT!
THEY CAN'T WAIT UNTIL MIDNIGHT, WHEN CARNAGE UNLEASHED GOES ON-LINE AND WHACKED-OUT CLETUS KASADY GOES ON-LINE RIGHT ALONG WITH THEM!
AH, THERE'S SO MUCH PROFIT IN ANTICIPATION!
YOU DID GET THROUGH TO KAFKA AND CONFIRM THE HOOK-UP WITH KASADY, RIGHT?
BEEN CALLING ALL EVENING AND NOBODY ANSWERS!


DR. KAFKA--ALL THE PHONE LINES ARE DEAD! THE EXCHANGE STATION FOR THIS WHOLE AREA IS DOWN!
OUR INFAMOUS INMATE HAS BEEN QUITE A BUSY LITTLE HACKER.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET YOU INTERVIEW HIM IN HIS CELL--HE USED HIS COOPERATION AS LEVERAGE FOR MORE COMPUTER TIME!
OH, COME OFF IT, KAFKA! I WAS PROJECTING A HOLOGRAM OF MYSELF INTO HIS CELL AND BESIDES--
--IT WAS YOU WHO MADE THE DEAL FOR THE COMPUTER GAME!
TIME'S UP, LADIES.
WE ARE GOING TO GIVE HIM THE OPTION OF VOLUNTARY SUBMISSION TO REINCARCERATION--
--AND WHEN HE REFUSES, WE'RE GOING TO SUBDUE HIM WITH GRENADE LAUNCHERS, MISSILES AND FLAME-THROWERS!
THAT'S TANTAMOUNT TO MURDER!
"THE SECURITY CHIEF MAY EXERCISE HIS OPTION TO EMPLOY DEADLY FORCE AGAINST AN INMATE IN THE ACT OF ESCAPING IF THE SAFETY OF SECURITY PERSONNEL OR CIVILIANS IS IN PERIL."
THIS SICK PUPPY HAS KILLED FIVE OF MY GUARDS--HE'S GOING DOWN!
MR. JAMESON--!!

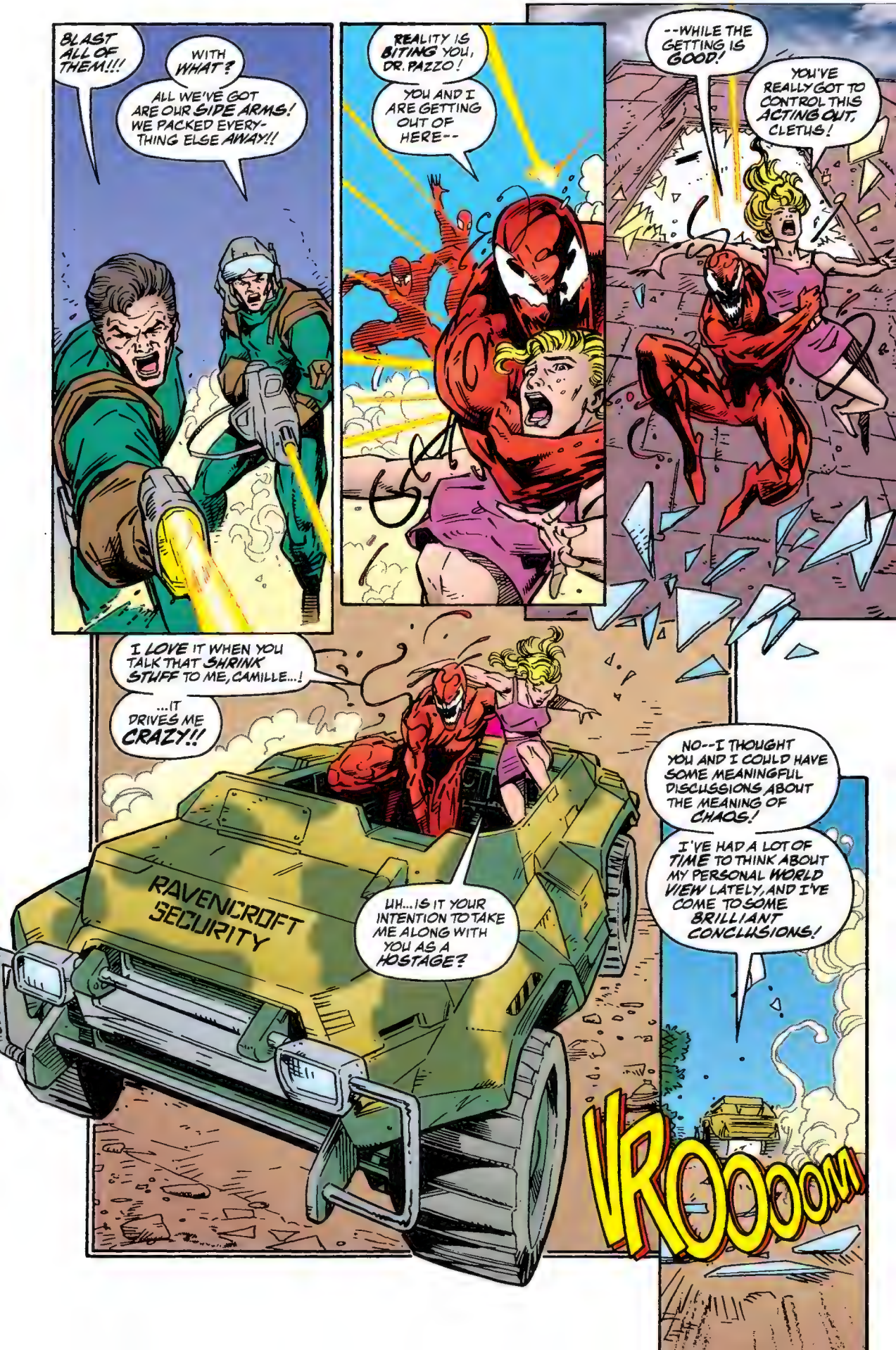

--HERE HE COMES AGAIN!!
HALT! PUT YOUR HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD AND FACE THE WALL!!
USE THE HEAT PROTECTORS FIRST--!
GIVE HIM HIS LEGAL WARNING!!!
NO WAY--
HIT HIM WITH THE MICROWAVES!
--YOU DIDN'T SAY "SIMON SAYS"!!
HOO-HA!
MISSILE AND GRENADE LAUNCHER TEAMS, FRONT AND CENTER!!
THE HEAT GUNS AREN'T HAVING ANY AFFECT ON HIM!!
GOOD LORD, JAMESON--
BACK OFF, KAFKA--THIS IS MY SHOW, NOW!

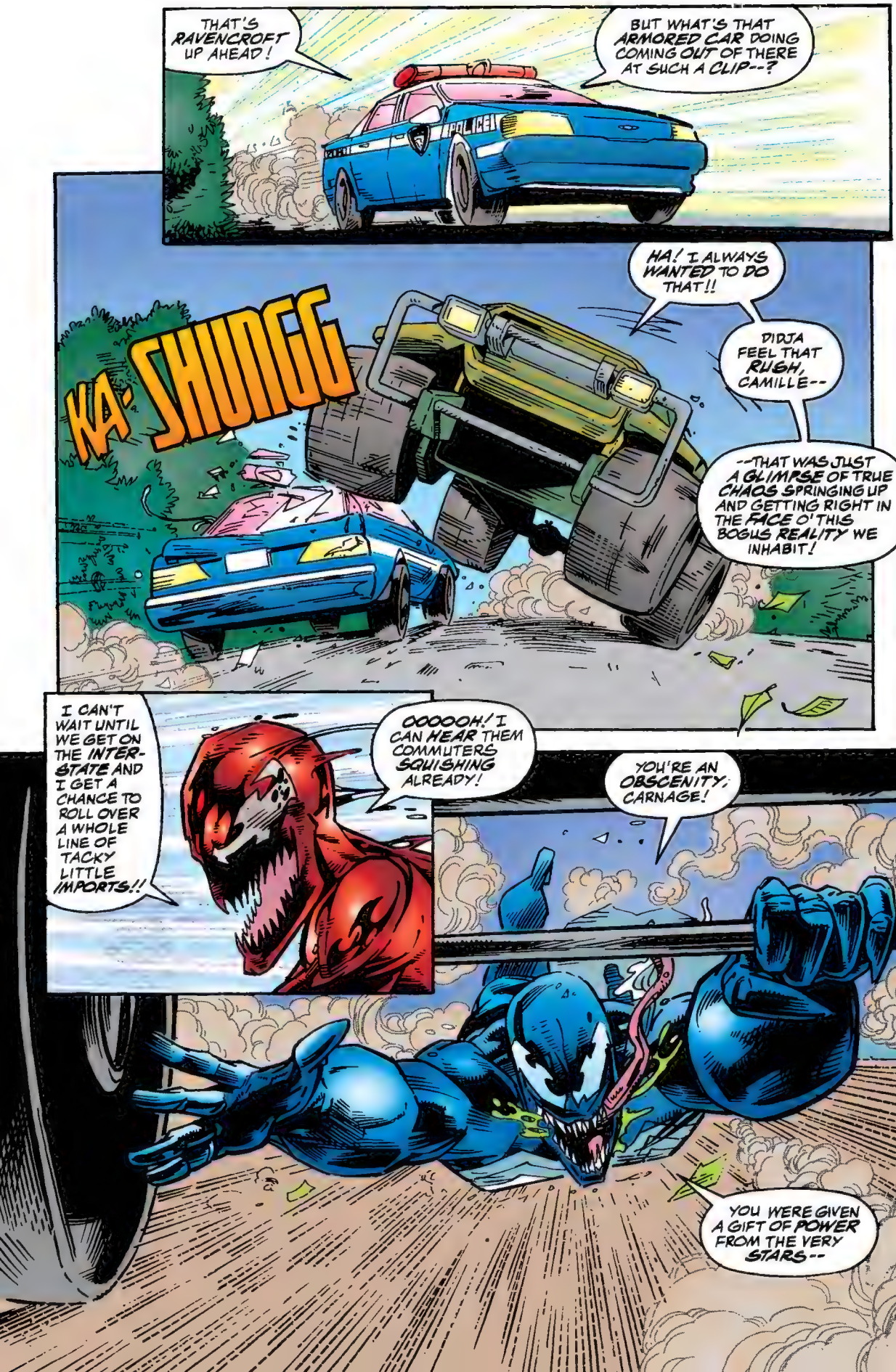

FOOM
FOOM
FIRE!!!
KA-THOOM
THAT DID IT!!
MADE KIBBLES & BITS™ OUT OF THAT PSYCHO-PUPPY, WE DID!
ALL RIGHT, STAND DOWN THE HEAVY HARDWARE AND GET THOSE USELESS HEAT GUNS OUT OF MY SIGHT!
GET THE ENGINEERS IN HERE TO CLEAR THE RUBBLE AND SCRAPE UP THE PIECES OF KASADY--
THAT WAS BLATANT OVER-REACTION!
BETTER THAN UNDERREACTING AND BEING DEAD.

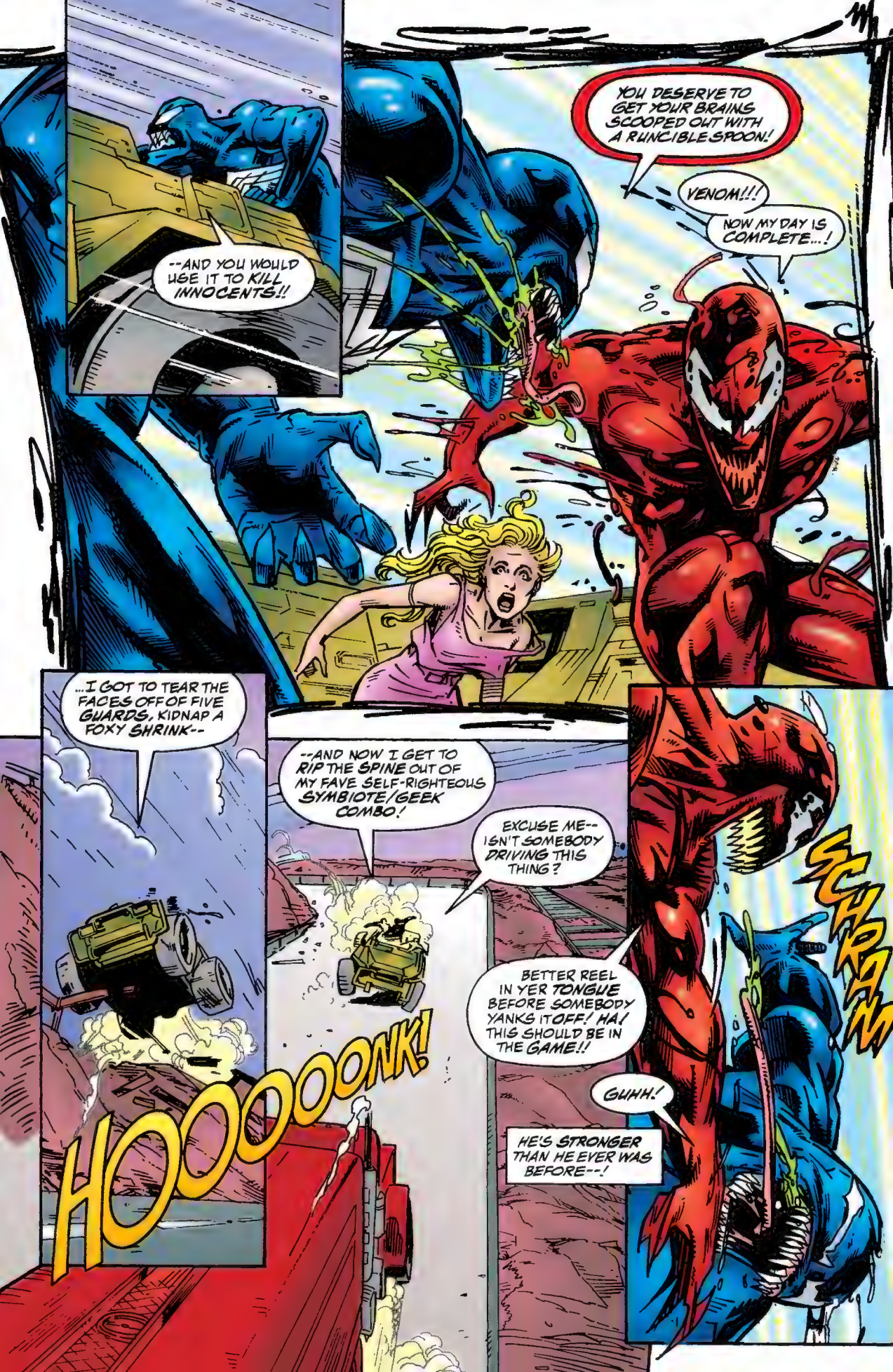

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT I PLAN ON FIXING IT UP WHEN MY NATIONAL ENDOWMENT GRANT COMES THROUGH.
GOSH, IT'S--
--IT'S JUST THE WAY I IMAGINED IT WOULD BE!
LOOK, HAVE YOU GOT ANY MONEY OR WHAT...?
...THERE'S THINGS THAT GOTTA GET DONE, PEOPLE WHO GOTTA GET MET, STUFF THAT NEEDS TO GET COPPED--!
I'VE GOT THE MONEY I WAS SAVING TO BUY AN AMP...
THIS WILL DO NICELY.
YOU MAKE YOURSELF RIGHT AT HOME AND I'LL BE BACK--WHEN I GET BACK!
PLINK
PLINK
♫ I LEFT THE WINDY CITY WHERE I WAS A PRISONER OF MY DREAMS AND NOW I AM A PAROLEE IN THE BIG BAD APPLE WHERE NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS... ♫


WHY AREN'T THOSE BLASTED HEAT GUNS STOWED AWAY YET?
WE HAVE TO COMPLETELY DISCHARGE THE BATTERIES, SIR. THAT TAKES AN HOUR...
...AND RECHARGING EATS UP A FULL TWELVE HOURS!
WE'LL SET UP THE WHOLE PROCESS IN THE ARM ROOM, SIR--GET IT OUT OF YOUR WAY--
IS IT WISE TO HAVE ALL THE HEAT WEAPONS DOWN AT THE SAME TIME?
UH-OH...!
THE INMATE THEY WERE DESIGNED TO SUPPRESS IS NOW A WET SMEAR AND A PUDDLE OF PULP--WHAT EARTHLY USE ARE THEY?
MORE OF RAVENCROFT'S COMPUTER SYSTEM HAS BEEN COMPROMISED THAN I PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT!
KASADY HAS BEEN INTO ALMOST EVERYTHING! RECORDS, COMMUNICATIONS, MONITORING--
SIR! WE'VE CLEARED AWAY ALL THE RUBBLE IN THE CORRIDOR AND SIFTED THROUGH ALL OF IT--
HAVE YOU GATHERED UP ALL THE BODY PARTS?
THERE AREN'T ANY, SIR! NOT EVEN A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD!
GOOD LORD--!
HE GOT INTO THE HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTOR CONTROLS!
WHAT THEY THOUGHT YOU KILLED WAS A HOLOGRAM.

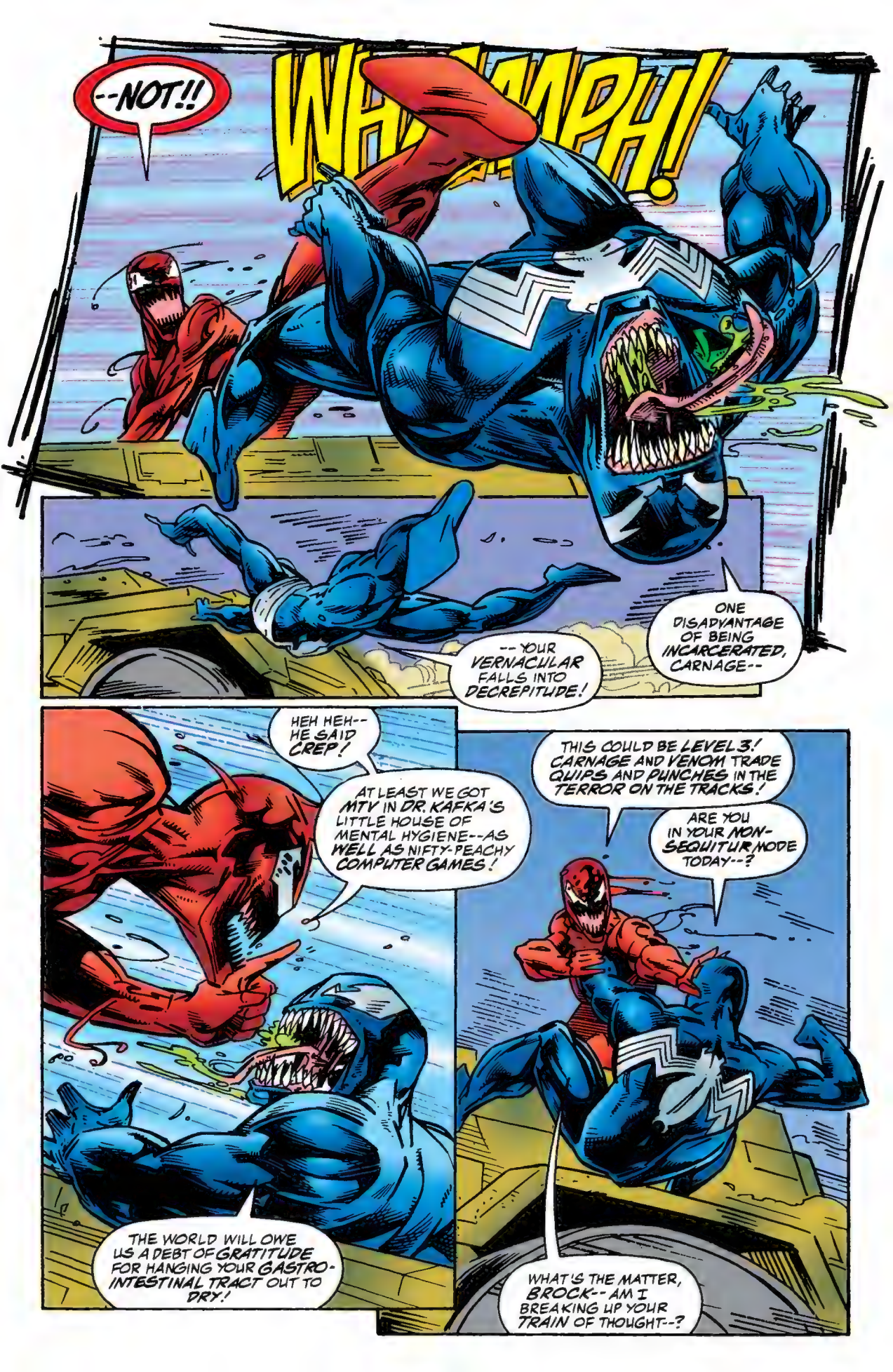

THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS!
I SURE DO HAVE THE HOLOGRAM CONTROLS!
--ME TOO!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
--AND SO DO I!
SHUT DOWN THE WHOLE COMPUTER SYSTEM! CUT HIM OFF!
I CAN'T!
THE SECURITY SYSTEM HAS TWO BACK-UPS BUILT IN AS A SAFETY FEATURE!
COME ON, JAMESON! TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT AT ME!
I DOUBLE-DOG DARE YOU--!
--IF YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE OF US IS THE REAL ONE!


BLAST ALL OF THEM!!!
WITH WHAT?
ALL WE'VE GOT ARE OUR SIDE ARMS! WE PACKED EVERY-THING ELSE AWAY!!
REALITY IS BITING YOU, DR. PAZZO!
YOU AND I ARE GETTING OUT OF HERE--
--WHILE THE GETTING IS GOOD!
YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO CONTROL THIS ACTING OUT, CLETUS!
I LOVE IT WHEN YOU TALK THAT SHRINK STUFF TO ME, CAMILLE...!
...IT DRIVES ME CRAZY!!
RAVENCROFT SECURITY
UH... IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO TAKE ME ALONG WITH YOU AS A HOSTAGE?
NO--I THOUGHT YOU AND I COULD HAVE SOME MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE MEANING OF CHAOS!
I'VE HAD A LOT OF TIME TO THINK ABOUT MY PERSONAL WORLD VIEW LATELY, AND I'VE COME TO SOME BRILLIANT CONCLUSIONS!
VROOOOM!

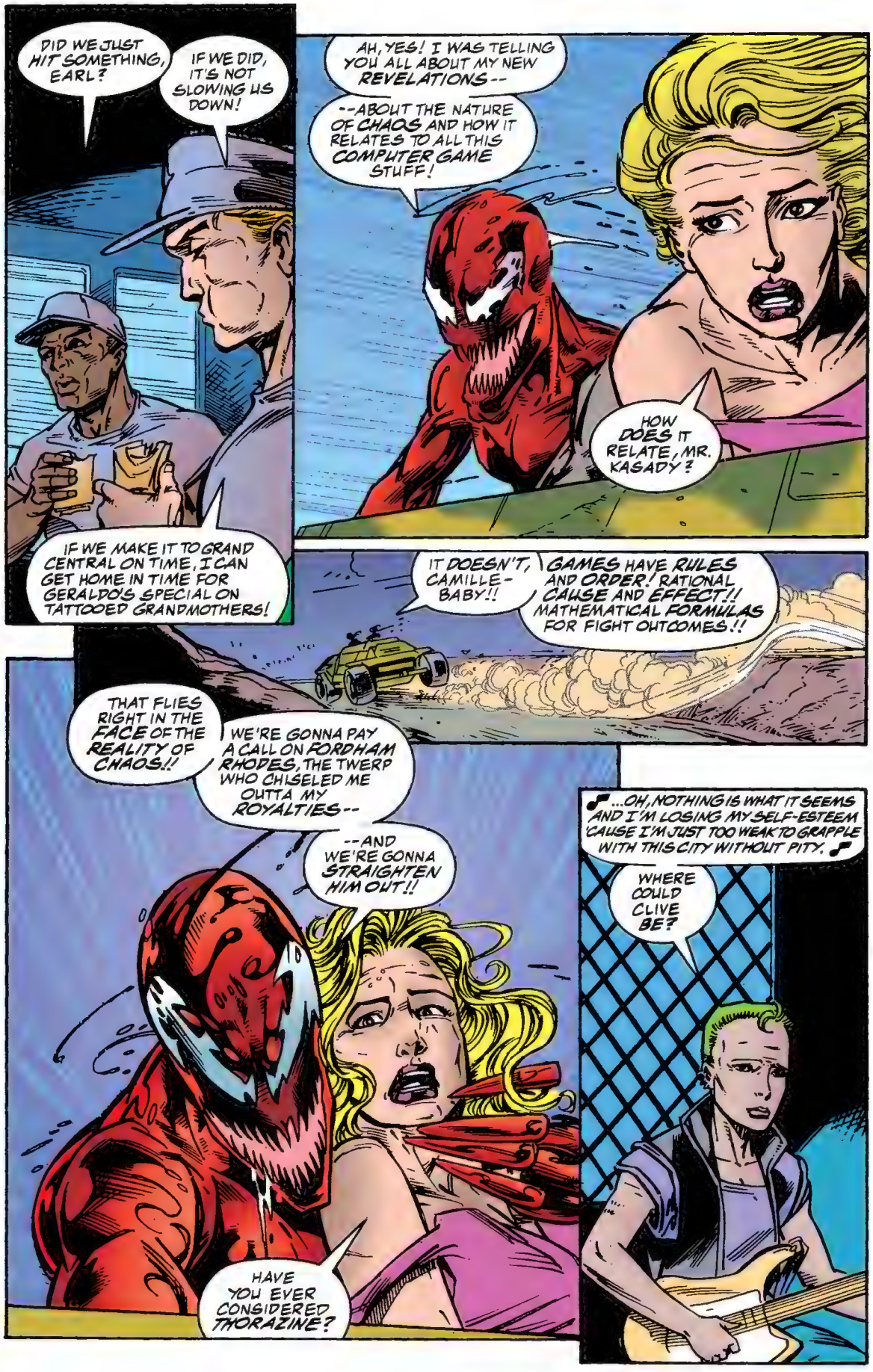

THAT'S RAVENCROFT UP AHEAD!
BUT WHAT'S THAT ARMORED CAR DOING COMING OUT OF THERE AT SUCH A CLIP--?
POLICE
KA-SHUNGG
HA! I ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THAT!!
DIDJA FEEL THAT RUSH, CAMILLE--
--THAT WAS JUST A GLIMPSE OF TRUE CHAOS SPRINGING UP AND GETTING RIGHT IN THE FACE O' THIS BOGUS REALITY WE INHABIT!
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL WE GET ON THE INTER-STATE AND I GET A CHANCE TO ROLL OVER A WHOLE LINE OF TACKY LITTLE IMPORTS!!
OOOOOH! I CAN HEAR THEM COMMUTERS SQUISHING ALREADY!
YOU'RE AN OBSCENITY, CARNAGE!
YOU WERE GIVEN A GIFT OF POWER FROM THE VERY STARS--


--AND YOU WOULD USE IT TO KILL INNOCENTS!!
YOU DESERVE TO GET YOUR BRAINS SCOOPED OUT WITH A RUNCIBLE SPOON!
VENOM!!!
NOW MY DAY IS COMPLETE...!
...I GOT TO TEAR THE FACES OFF OF FIVE GUARDS, KIDNAP A FOXY SHRINK--
--AND NOW I GET TO RIP THE SPINE OUT OF MY FAVE SELF-RIGHTEOUS SYMBIOTE/GEEK COMBO!
EXCUSE ME-- ISN'T SOMEBODY DRIVING THIS THING?
HOOOOONK!
BETTER REEL IN YER TONGUE BEFORE SOMEBODY YANKS IT OFF! HA! THIS SHOULD BE IN THE GAME!!
SCHRAAA
GUHH!
HE'S STRONGER THAN HE EVER WAS BEFORE--!


IS IT A STRENGTH BORN OF INCREASED MADNESS OR HAS HIS ALIEN OTHER UNDERGONE YET ANOTHER MUTATION?
WHICHEVER--THIS EVIL ABERRATION, THIS MALIGNANT MELDING OF THE OFFSHOOT OF MY OTHER AND A PSYCHOPATHIC KILLER MUST BE EXPUNGED--!!
EXTRA POINTS FOR HITTING A GAS TRUCK!
KA-SHUNG
HALF-ON THE METRO-NORTH TRACKS! CAN YOU PICTURE THIS ON THE VIDEO SCREEN--?
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
THUBBITY
AWWW! THE DRIVER GOT OUT!!
WE DON'T GET TO HEAR HIM HOWLING IN PAIN AND AGONY AS HE BURNS TO A CRISP!!
YOU WANT PAIN AND AGONY?
KA THU AK
WE'LL GIVE IT TO YOU IN SPADES!
EEEYOW! YA PUT ME DOWN FOR THE COUNT WITH THAT ONE--
IS IT POSSIBLE TO WORK THIS ALL OUT AFTER WE REGAIN CONTROL OF THIS VEHICLE, GUYS?

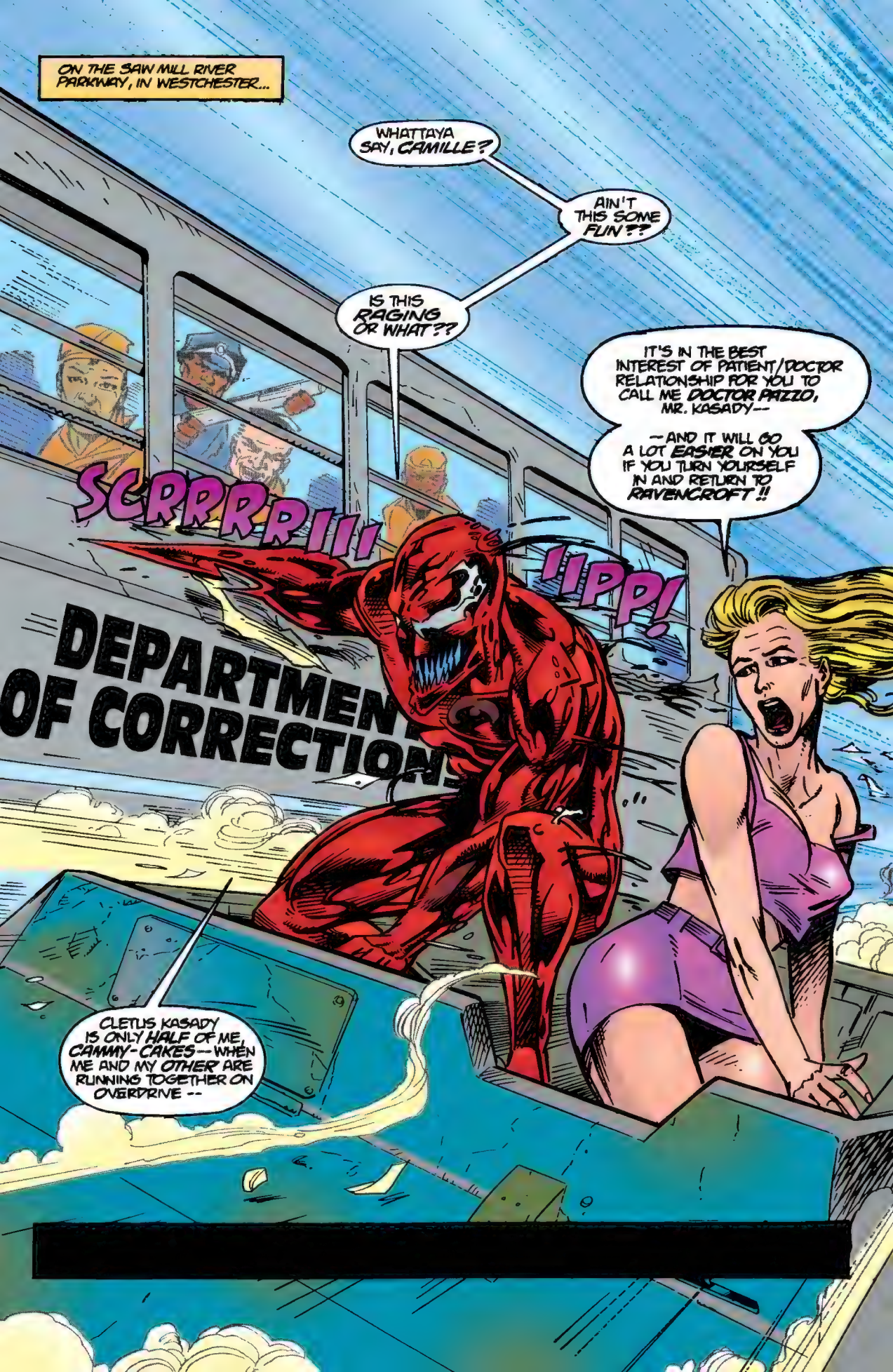

--NOT!!
WHAMPH!
ONE DISADVANTAGE OF BEING INCARCERATED, CARNAGE--
--YOUR VERNACULAR FALLS INTO DECREPITUDE!
HEH HEH-- HE SAID CREP!
AT LEAST WE GOT MTV IN DR. KAFKA'S LITTLE HOUSE OF MENTAL HYGIENE--AS WELL AS NIFTY-PEACHY COMPUTER GAMES!
THIS COULD BE LEVEL 3! CARNAGE AND VENOM TRADE QUIPS AND PUNCHES IN THE TERROR ON THE TRACKS!
ARE YOU IN YOUR NON-SEQUITUR MODE TODAY--?
THE WORLD WILL OWE US A DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR HANGING YOUR GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT OUT TO DRY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BROCK-- AM I BREAKING UP YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT--?


WOOOOOOOO
...AM I DE-RAILING YOUR BRAIN?
MAYBE THEY CAN SCRAPE YOU OFF AT THE NEXT STATION--
--IF THEY HAVE A SPATULA!!!
NOW, WHERE WERE WE, DR. PAZZO--?
KA-SPLATT


DID WE JUST HIT SOMETHING, EARL?
IF WE DID, IT'S NOT SLOWING US DOWN!
IF WE MAKE IT TO GRAND CENTRAL ON TIME, I CAN GET HOME IN TIME FOR GERALDO'S SPECIAL ON TATTOOED GRANDMOTHERS!
AH, YES! I WAS TELLING YOU ALL ABOUT MY NEW REVELATIONS--
--ABOUT THE NATURE OF CHAOS AND HOW IT RELATES TO ALL THIS COMPUTER GAME STUFF!
HOW DOES IT RELATE, MR. KASADY?
IT DOESN'T, CAMILLE-BABY!!
GAMES HAVE RULES AND ORDER! RATIONAL CAUSE AND EFFECT!! MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS FOR FIGHT OUTCOMES!!
THAT FLIES RIGHT IN THE FACE OF THE REALITY OF CHAOS!!
WE'RE GONNA PAY A CALL ON FORDHAM RHODES, THE TWERP WHO CHISELED ME OUTTA MY ROYALTIES--
--AND WE'RE GONNA STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT!!
HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THORAZINE?
♪...OH, NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS AND I'M LOSING MY SELF-ESTEEM 'CAUSE I'M JUST TOO WEAK TO GRAPPLE WITH THIS CITY WITHOUT PITY. ♪
WHERE COULD CLIVE BE?


AT GRAND CENTRAL STATION...
SEE? NOTHIN' THERE!
I GUESS IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINATION.
BUT IT SOUNDED JUST LIKE HITTING A BODY--THAT WET SPLAT AND THE SHEET METAL DRUMMING...
REMEMBER THE TIME WE HIT THAT WINO ON THE LOCAL RUN OUT OF CHAPPAQUIDICK?
YEAH, HE WAS SO STEWED HE DIDN'T HEAR US COMING AND--WHAMM! INSTANT JELLO SHOTS!
IT WAS THE SOUND--IT WAS EXACTLY LIKE WHAT WE HEARD BACK UP THE LINE...
WELL, IF WE HIT SOMEONE, HE SURE AS BLAZES WOULD STILL BE SMEARED ALL OVER THE ENGINE, NOW, WOULDN'T HE?
UHHHH...
...WE DID GOOD--
--BLENDING IN WITH THE TRAIN LIKE THAT...
BUT, OH--ARE WE HURTING!
DEFINITELY HAVE TO ASSUME A LOW PROFILE WHILE WE RECUPERATE--
--AND THEN, WE HAVE TO TRACK DOWN CARNAGE AND SETTLE HIS HASH FOR GOOD!
TO BE CONTINUED--LIKE WE HAD TO TELL YOU THAT!


MARVEL COMICS
3 JUN
CARNAGE™ UNLEASHED
PART THREE OF FOUR
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
VENOM®


ON THE SAW MILL RIVER PARKWAY, IN WESTCHESTER...
WHATTAYA SAY, CAMILLE?
AIN'T THIS SOME FUN??
IS THIS RAGING OR WHAT??
IT'S IN THE BEST INTEREST OF PATIENT/DOCTOR RELATIONSHIP FOR YOU TO CALL ME DOCTOR PAZZO, MR. KASADY--
--AND IT WILL GO A LOT EASIER ON YOU IF YOU TURN YOURSELF IN AND RETURN TO RAVENCROFT !!
SCRRRRIII
!IPP!
DEPARTMEN
OF CORRECTION
CLETUS KASADY IS ONLY HALF OF ME, CAMMY-CAKES-- WHEN ME AND MY OTHER ARE RUNNING TOGETHER ON OVERDRIVE --

THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION!

SCHRRI!!PP!

--WE ARE CARNAGE TO THE MAX!

YO, HOME-- WASTE THESE SCREWS!

YOU'RE GONNA EAT AN ATTICA COCKTAIL, PSYCHO--

--DOUBLE AUGHT BUCK AND DEER SLUGS!

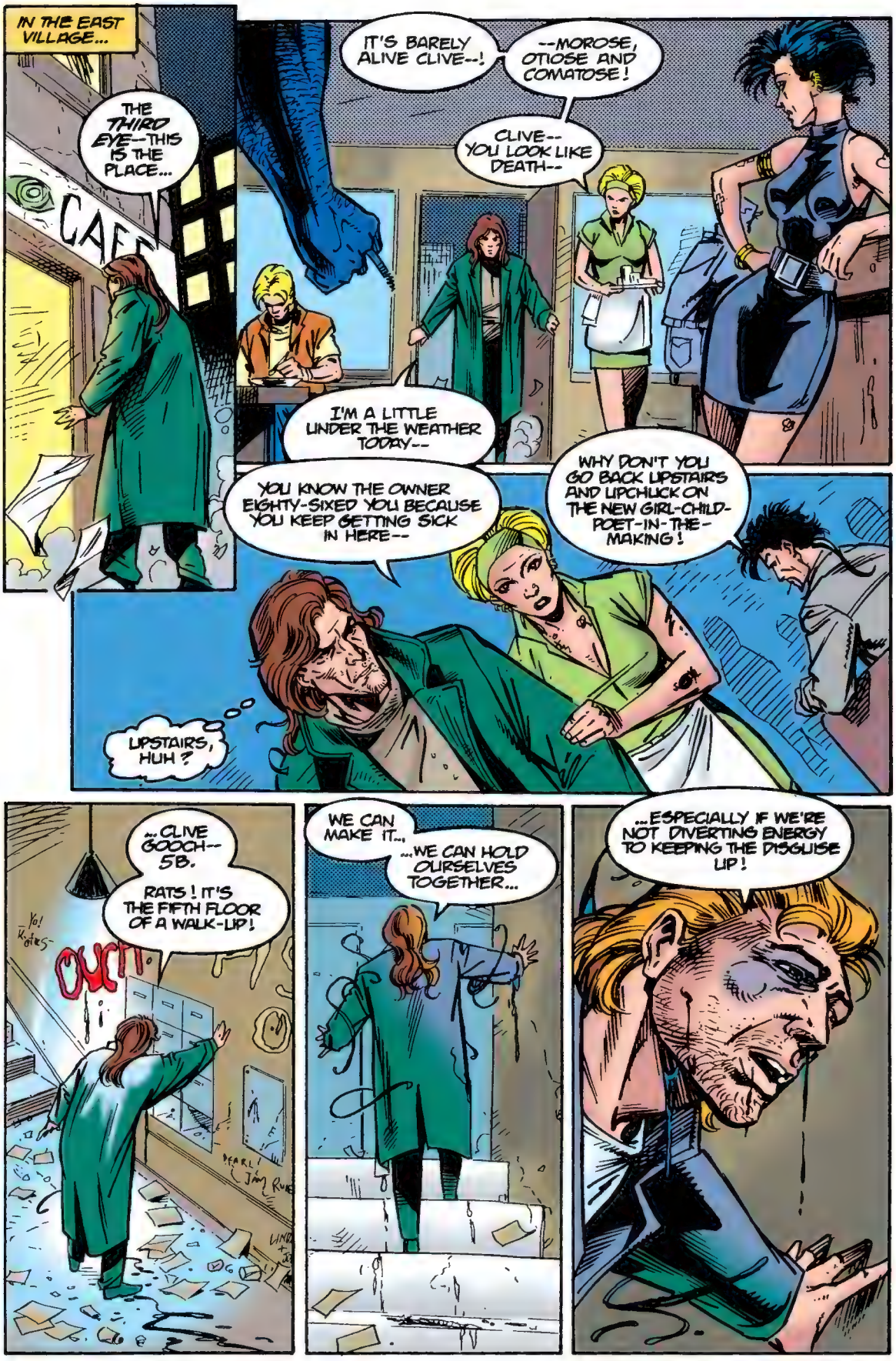
DON'T DO IT, MIKE-- YOU'LL HIT HIS HOSTAGE!

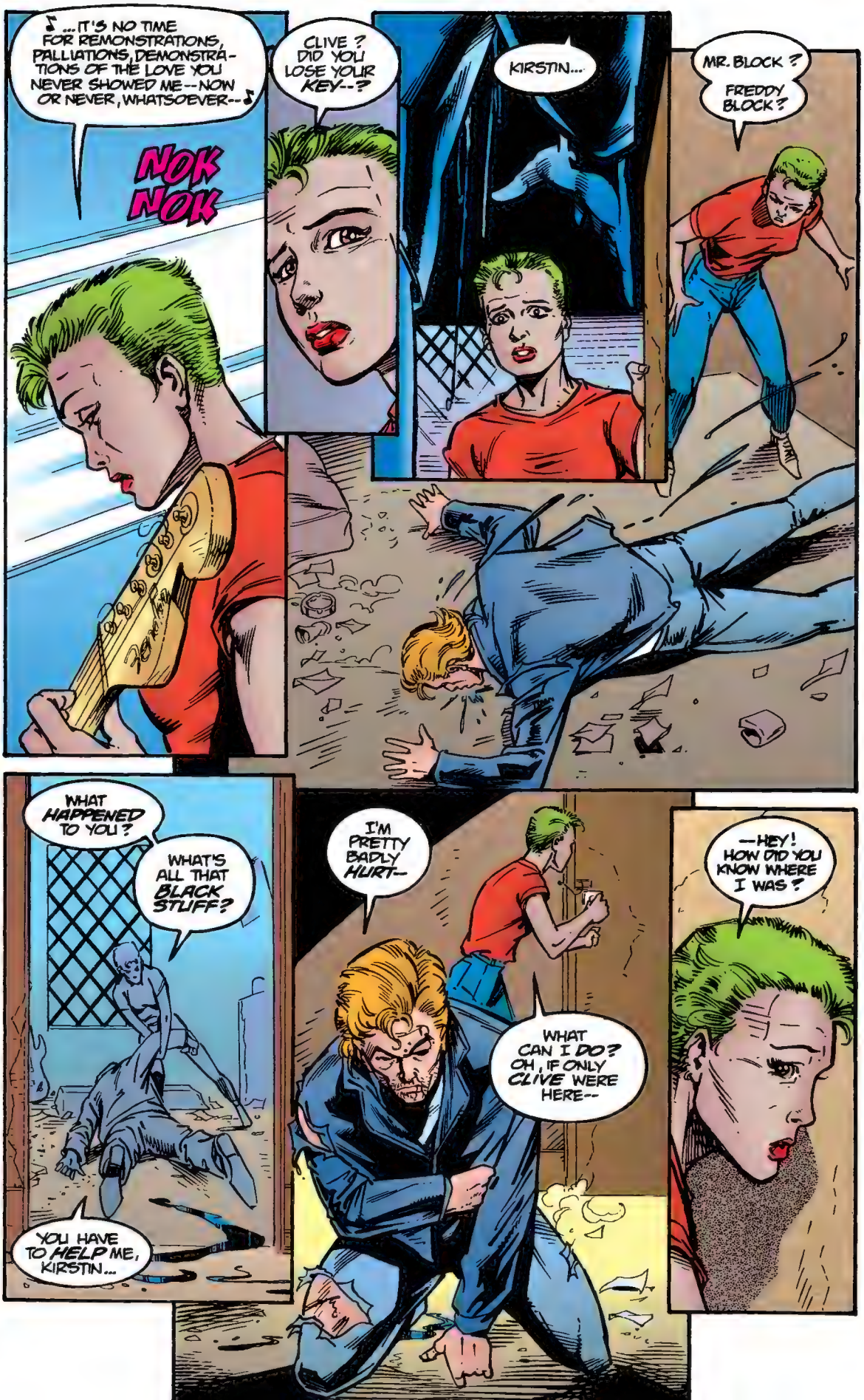
AIIIEEEE!!

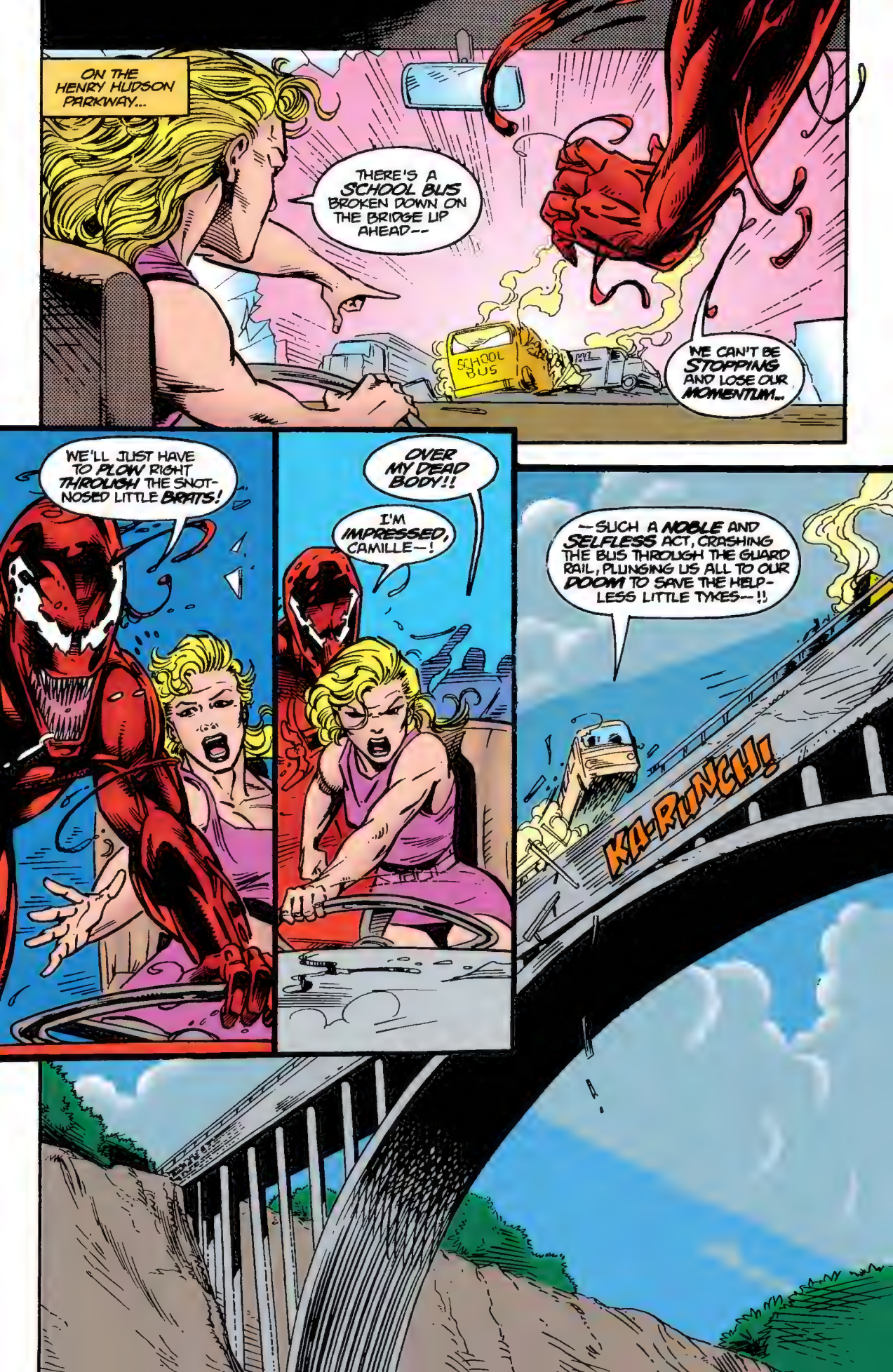
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HOOO...NK
WHAT THE--
I AIN'T BLIND, I SEE THE GIRL...
...BUT I'D RATHER TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD--
WHUMP
--THAN WIND UP AS MORGUE MEAT BECAUSE I DIDN'T TAKE MY SHOT!
BLAMM
AW, THIS IS TOO EASY!
LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR AIM IS IF THE BUS IS OUTTA CONTROL!!!
KASADY--! WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
SCHRAKK!
UNGHHH!!
YOU'RE A MANIAC!
YOU'RE TRYIN' TO GET US ALL KILLED!!
DUHHH!! NO KIDDIN', SHERLOCK...!!

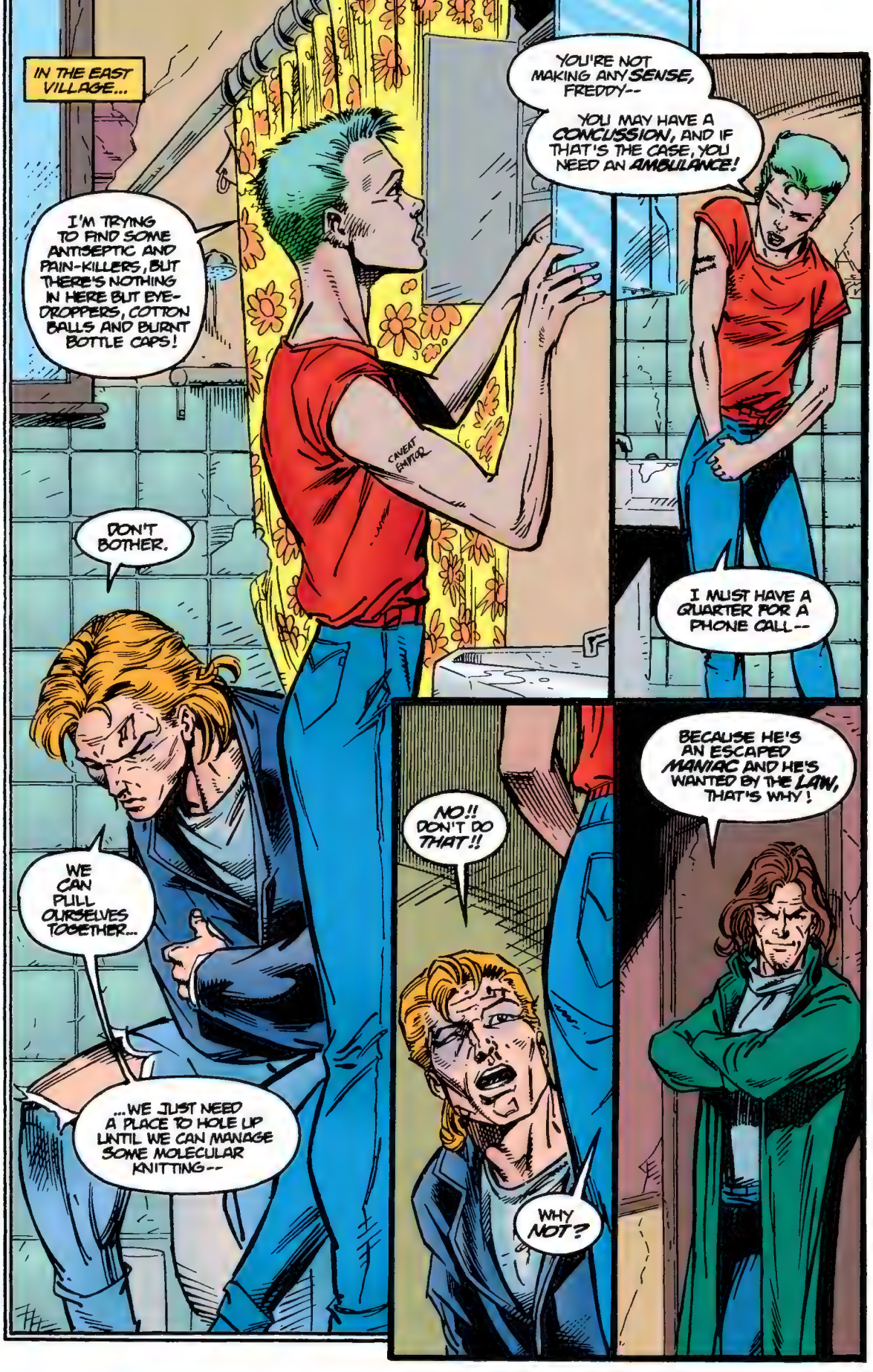

I'M DOIN' A SIGHT BETTER THAN JUST TRYIN'!
SCHRRRIPP!
SOMEBODY HAS TO DRIVE THIS THING--!!
CAMILLE, YOU ARE JUST SO RESPONSIBLE!!
CAR-NAGE! CAR-NAGE!
CUT US LOOSE AND WE'LL BE YOUR BOYS!
WE'LL TEAR NEW YORK APART!
OH, YOU WANT TO BE MY GANG, HUH??
HEY, PRETTY SHRINK-LADY! I BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW I HAD SUCH CHARISMA, DIDJA?
CHARISMA IS PRONOUNCED WITH A HARD 'C', CLETUS...

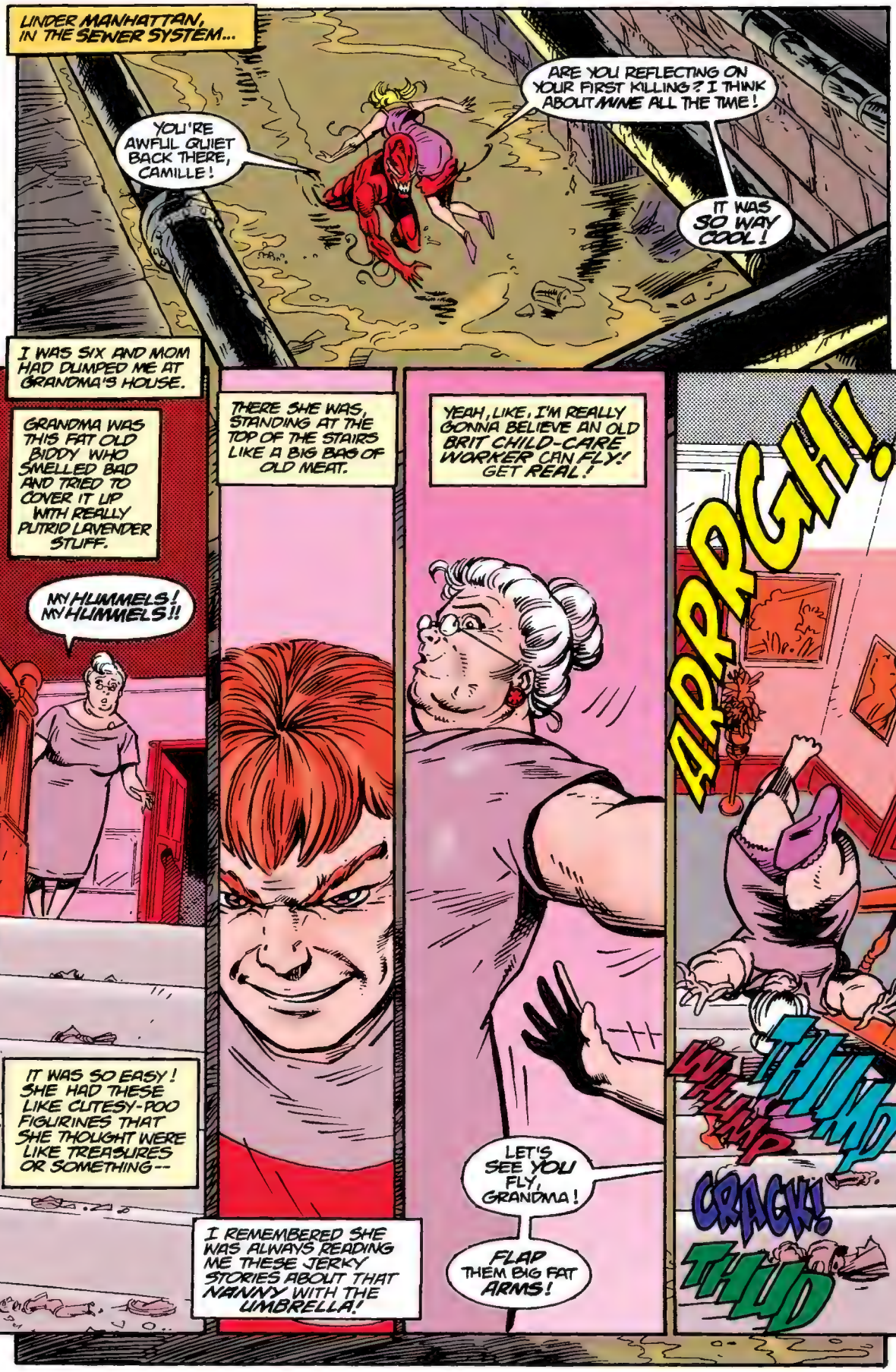

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
THE THIRD EYE--THIS IS THE PLACE...
CAFE
IT'S BARELY ALIVE CLIVE--!
--MOROSE, OTIOSE AND COMATOSE!
CLIVE--YOU LOOK LIKE DEATH--
I'M A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER TODAY--
YOU KNOW THE OWNER EIGHTY-SIXED YOU BECAUSE YOU KEEP GETTING SICK IN HERE--
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK UPSTAIRS AND UPCHUCK ON THE NEW GIRL-CHILD-POET-IN-THE-MAKING!
UPSTAIRS, HUH?
...CLIVE GOOCH--5B.
RATS! IT'S THE FIFTH FLOOR OF A WALK-UP!
OUCH!
WE CAN MAKE IT...
...WE CAN HOLD OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...ESPECIALLY IF WE'RE NOT DIVERTING ENERGY TO KEEPING THE DISGUISE UP!


♪ ...IT'S NO TIME FOR REMONSTRATIONS, PALLIATIONS, DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE LOVE YOU NEVER SHOWED ME--NOW OR NEVER, WHATSOEVER--♪
NOK NOK
CLIVE? DID YOU LOSE YOUR KEY--?
KIRSTIN...
MR. BLOCK? FREDDY BLOCK?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT'S ALL THAT BLACK STUFF?
YOU HAVE TO HELP ME, KIRSTIN...
I'M PRETTY BADLY HURT--
WHAT CAN I DO? OH, IF ONLY CLIVE WERE HERE--
--HEY! HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WAS?


ON THE HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY...
THERE'S A SCHOOL BUS BROKEN DOWN ON THE BRIDGE UP AHEAD--
SCHOOL BUS
WE CAN'T BE STOPPING AND LOSE OUR MOMENTUM...
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO PLOW RIGHT THROUGH THE SNOT-NOSED LITTLE BRATS!
OVER MY DEAD BODY!!
I'M IMPRESSED, CAMILLE--!
--SUCH A NOBLE AND SELFLESS ACT, CRASHING THE BUS THROUGH THE GUARD RAIL, PLUNGING US ALL TO OUR DOOM TO SAVE THE HELP-LESS LITTLE TYKES--!!
KA-RUNCH!


--PROBABLY THOUGHT YOU WERE DOING THE WORLD A FAVOR BY GETTING RID OF ME, HUH??
THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND PSYCHOLOGISTS CAN SOMETIMES SLAM FACE-FIRST INTO THE SPEEDING MACK TRUCK OF TOTALLY WHACKED OUT VOODOO CIRCUMSTANCES!!
SAY BYE-BYE TO THE DREGS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, CAMILLE--
--THEY'RE GOING SWIMMING WITHOUT US!
EEYYAA!
NOOOOOO!
UNLOCK THE CUFFS! SOMEBODY--
YOU KILLED 'EM, PAZZO-BABY!
I DIDN'T! I--
PA-SHOOM!
YES, YOU DID! YOU'RE REALLY COMING ALONG!
YOU'RE MAKING PROGRESS!
YOU'RE ACTING OUT!

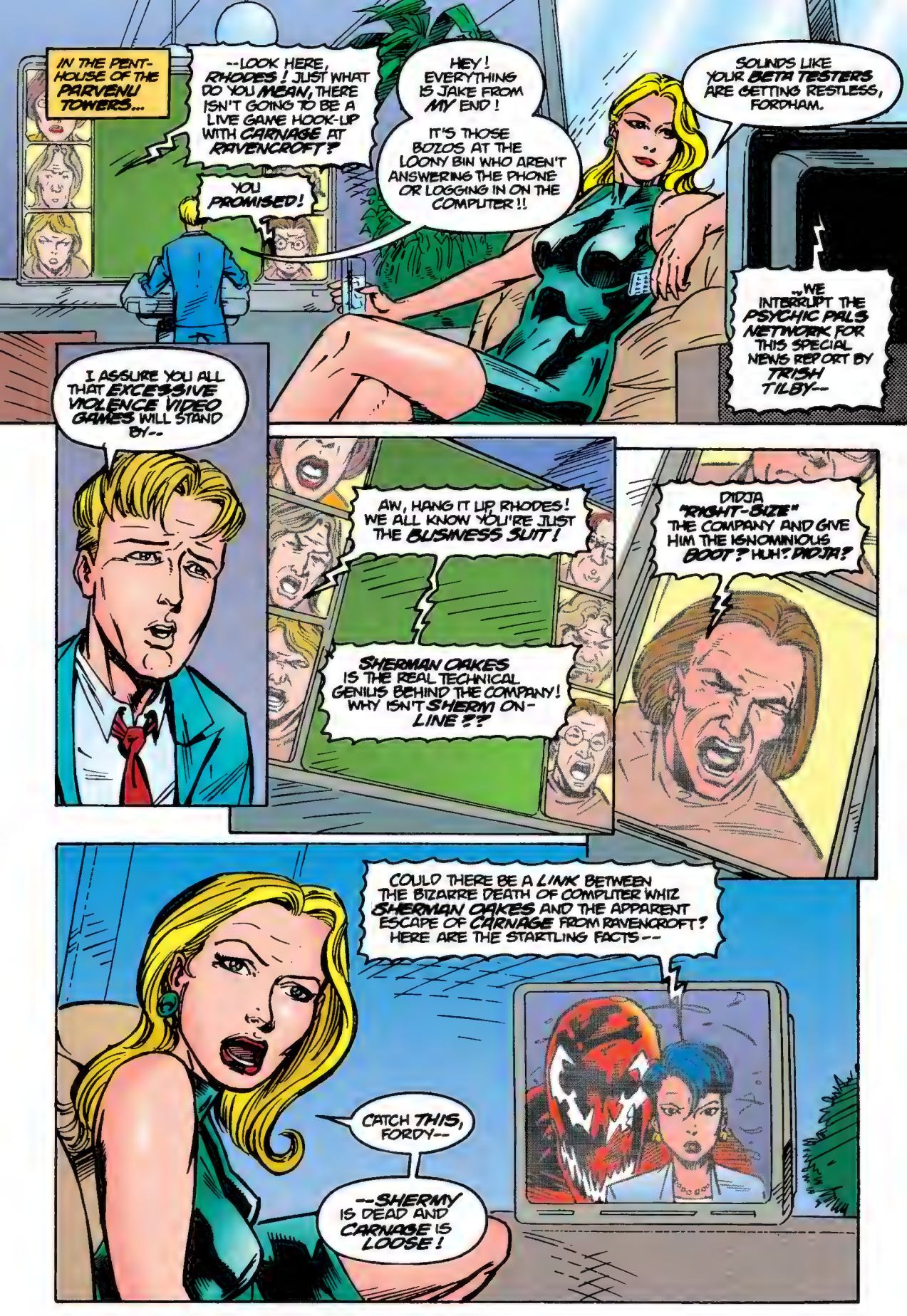

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
I'M TRYING TO FIND SOME ANTISEPTIC AND PAIN-KILLERS, BUT THERE'S NOTHING IN HERE BUT EYE-DROPPERS, COTTON BALLS AND BURNT BOTTLE CAPS!
YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE, FREDDY--
YOU MAY HAVE A CONCUSSION, AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE!
CAVEAT EMPTOR
DON'T BOTHER.
I MUST HAVE A QUARTER FOR A PHONE CALL--
WE CAN PULL OURSELVES TOGETHER...
...WE JUST NEED A PLACE TO HOLE UP UNTIL WE CAN MANAGE SOME MOLECULAR KNITTING--
NO!! DON'T DO THAT!!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE HE'S AN ESCAPED MANIAC AND HE'S WANTED BY THE LAW, THAT'S WHY!


UNDER MANHATTAN, IN THE SEWER SYSTEM...
YOU'RE AWFUL QUIET BACK THERE, CAMILLE!
ARE YOU REFLECTING ON YOUR FIRST KILLING? I THINK ABOUT MINE ALL THE TIME!
IT WAS SO WAY COOL!
I WAS SIX AND MOM HAD DUMPED ME AT GRANDMA'S HOUSE.
GRANDMA WAS THIS FAT OLD BIDDY WHO SMELLED BAD AND TRIED TO COVER IT UP WITH REALLY PUTRID LAVENDER STUFF.
MY HUMMELS! MY HUMMELS!!
IT WAS SO EASY! SHE HAD THESE LIKE CUTESY-POO FIGURINES THAT SHE THOUGHT WERE LIKE TREASURES OR SOMETHING--
I REMEMBERED SHE WAS ALWAYS READING ME THESE JERKY STORIES ABOUT THAT NANNY WITH THE UMBRELLA!
THERE SHE WAS, STANDING AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS LIKE A BIG BAG OF OLD MEAT.
YEAH, LIKE, I'M REALLY GONNA BELIEVE AN OLD BRIT CHILD-CARE WORKER CAN FLY! GET REAL!
LET'S SEE YOU FLY, GRANDMA!
FLAP THEM BIG FAT ARMS!
ARRRGH!
WHUMP
THUMP
CRACK!
THUD

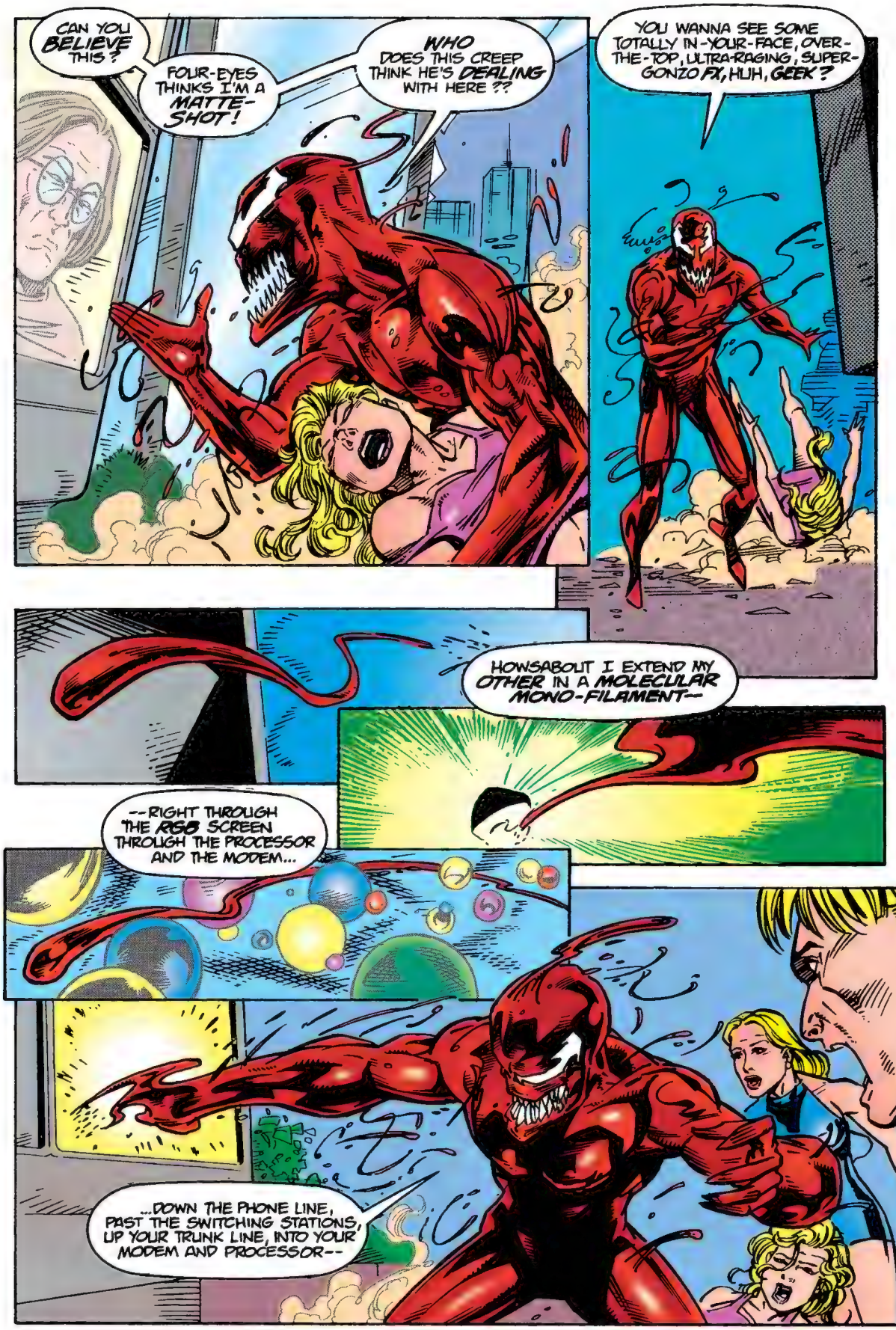

HER NECK SNAPPED LIKE A TWIG! THEY KEPT SAYING HOW AWFUL IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR ME...!
YEAH RIGHT! I HAD TO WAIT A WHOLE FIVE HOURS FOR MOM TO GET BACK BEFORE I COULD GET ANYTHING FOR DINNER!
THEY SHOULD BRING BACK LOBOTOMIES JUST FOR YOU, KASADY!
OOOOOH! LOSING OUR PROFESSIONAL COOL, ARE WE, CAMMY-CAKES??
WHERE'S YOUR DISTANCE AND OBJECTIVITY?
WHERE'S YOUR COMPASSION FOR AN INNOCENT SOUL CORRUPTED BY A PERVERSE AND UNCARING ENVIRONMENT?
YOU WERE NEVER INNOCENT!
PARVENU TOWERS
NOBODY WAS EVER INNOCENT--!
WHAT WAS THAT?
LOOKED LIKE A RED AND BLACK SUIT--DAREDEVIL?
NAH--HE CHANGED HIS COSTUME--
--EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD IS JUST LIKE ME!
THEY EITHER JUST PRETEND TO HAVE ETHICS OR ELSE THEY ARE TOTALLY DELUSIONARY!
HOW'S THAT FOR SOME BRILLIANT INSIGHT?
LILP! ANYTHING YOU SAY, CLETUS!

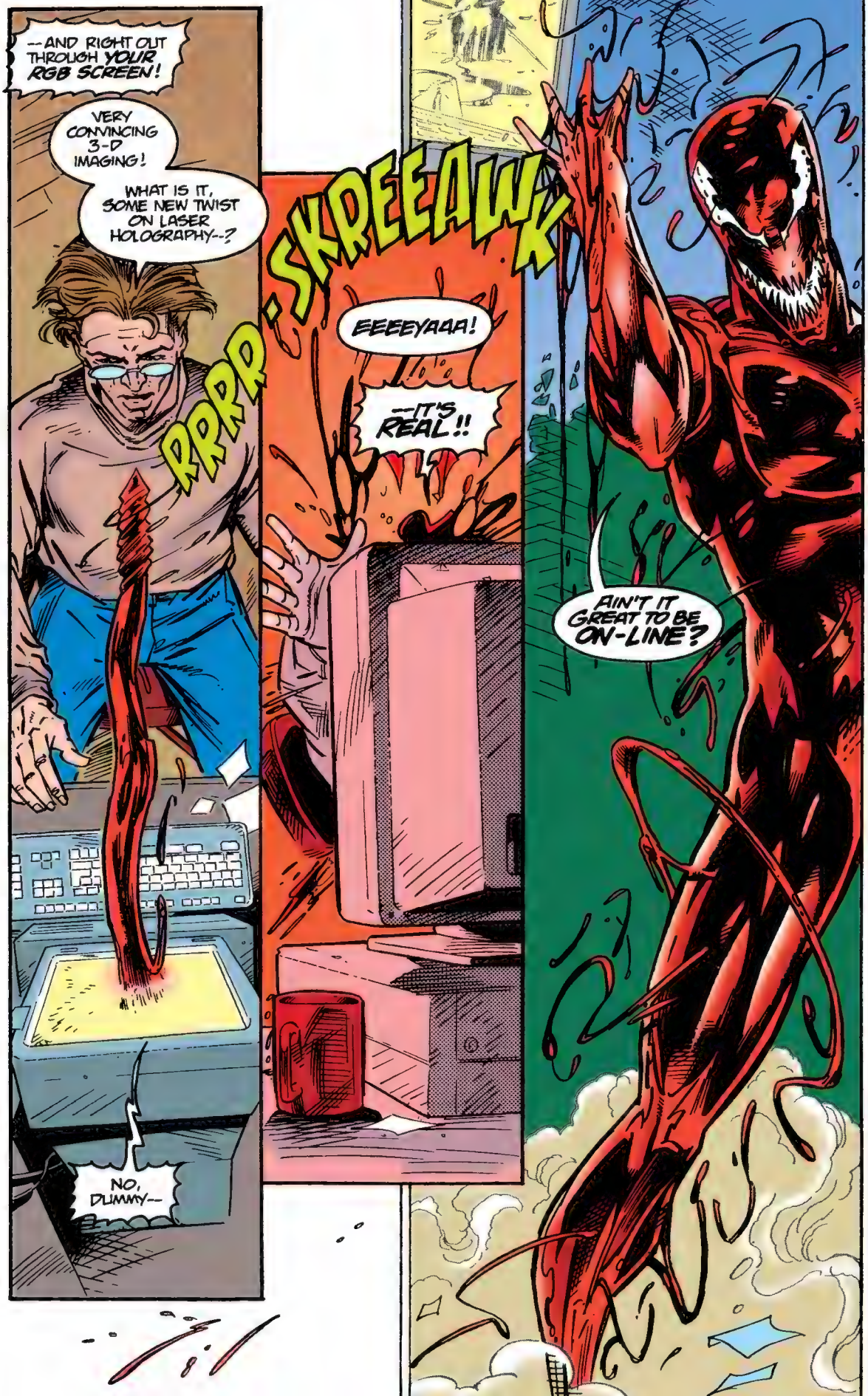

IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
CAN WE TALK?
I'M GOING BACK DOWNSTAIRS AND I'M CALLING THE POLICE--
WAIT--
--WAIT, YOU LOW-LIFE PARASITE HEROIN ADDICT!!
DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU MANIAC!! I READ ALL ABOUT YOU--YOURE--
--LIRK!
GOOCH BOO COPIES
PAID
AAAAIIIIEEEE!!
NO! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--


YOU KILLED HIM!
KIRSTIN, HE WAS A JUNKIE-- HE WAS USING YOU--
HE WASN'T USING ME. HE WAS PRETENDING TO BE A JUNKIE SO HE COULD MOVE IN THE MILIEU!
HE WAS WRITING A WHOLE SERIES OF POEMS ABOUT THE DRUG CULTURE!
HE CADGED MONEY OFF ME TO PAY OFF THE PRINTERS SO HE COULD GET HIS JOURNALS OUT OF HOCK--
--AND YOU MURDERED HIM!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE COULD HAVE SAVED HIM, BUT WE DIDN'T EVEN TRY--
AND BECAUSE OF US, AN INNOCENT HAS DIED!


IN THE PENT-HOUSE OF THE PARVENU TOWERS...
--LOOK HERE, RHODES! JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE A LIVE GAME HOOK-UP WITH CARNAGE AT RAVENCROFT?
YOU PROMISED!
HEY! EVERYTHING IS JAKE FROM MY END!
IT'S THOSE BOZOS AT THE LOONY BIN WHO AREN'T ANSWERING THE PHONE OR LOGGING IN ON THE COMPUTER!!
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR BETA TESTERS ARE GETTING RESTLESS, FORDHAM.
--WE INTERRUPT THE PSYCHIC PALS NETWORK FOR THIS SPECIAL NEWS REPORT BY TRISH TILBY--
I ASSURE YOU ALL THAT EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAMES WILL STAND BY--
AW, HANG IT UP, RHODES! WE ALL KNOW YOU'RE JUST THE BUSINESS SUIT!
SHERMAN OAKES IS THE REAL TECHNICAL GENIUS BEHIND THE COMPANY! WHY ISN'T SHERM ON-LINE??
DIDJA "RIGHT-SIZE" THE COMPANY AND GIVE HIM THE IGNOMINIOUS BOOT? HUH?! DIDJA?
COULD THERE BE A LINK BETWEEN THE BIZARRE DEATH OF COMPUTER WHIZ SHERMAN OAKES AND THE APPARENT ESCAPE OF CARNAGE FROM RAVENCROFT? HERE ARE THE STARTLING FACTS--
CATCH THIS, FORDY--
--SHERMY IS DEAD AND CARNAGE IS LOOSE!

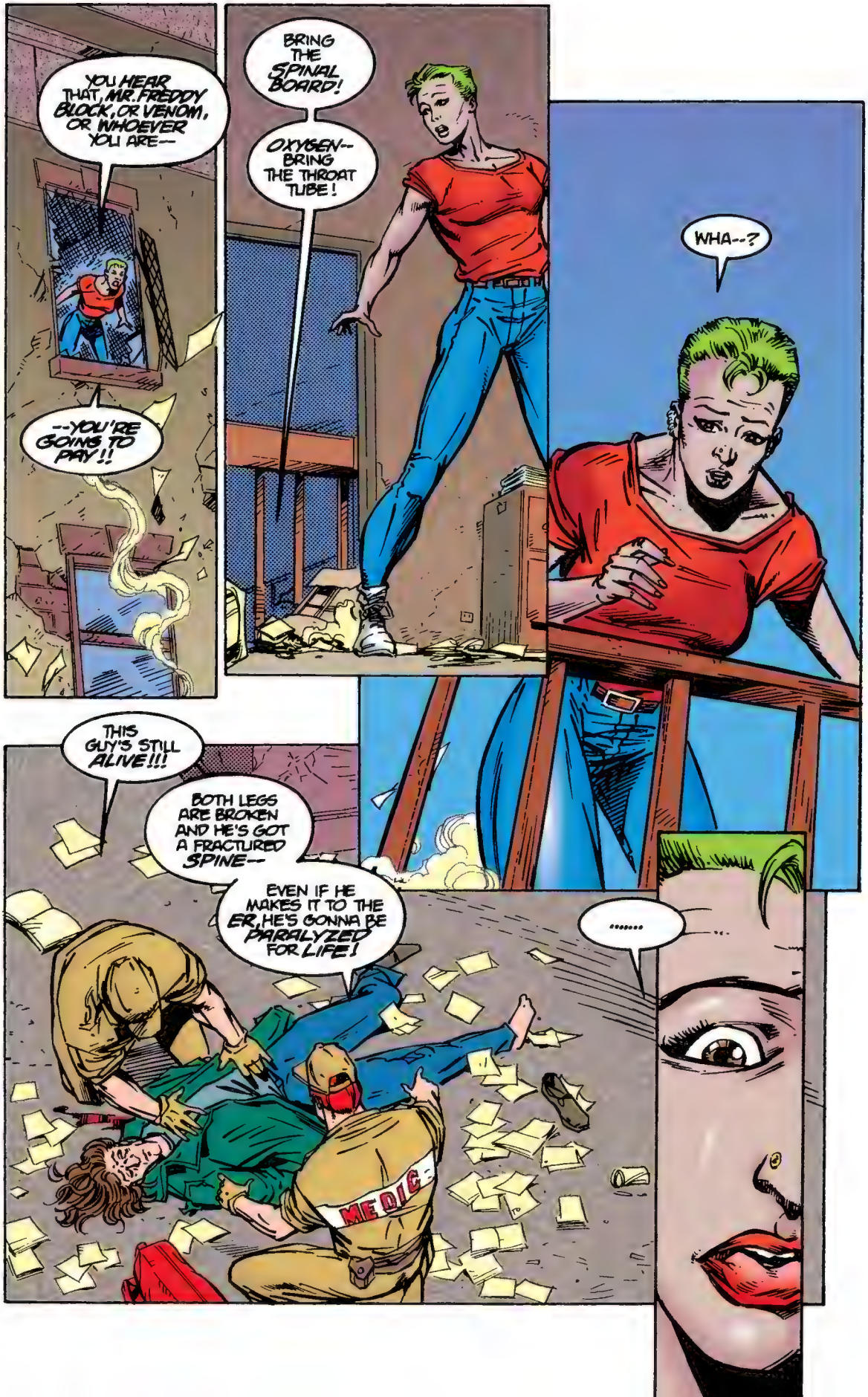

SCHRRAM!
HE'S NOT JUST LOOSE, LADY--HE'S HERE !!!
AHHH, THIS IS LIKE UNTO SOME MAXIMUM BOGOSITY, DUDES!
WOTTA PU'BLICITY STUNT!
HIRING SOME STUNT BOZO TO DRESS UP IN A FAKE CARNAGE SUIT IS A PRIMO EXAMPLE OF YOUR MARKETROIDINOSITY!
RHODES, YOU ARE LIKE MEGA-BARFULOUS!


CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?
FOUR-EYES THINKS I'M A MATTE-SHOT!
WHO DOES THIS CREEP THINK HE'S DEALING WITH HERE??
YOU WANNA SEE SOME TOTALLY IN-YOUR-FACE, OVER-THE-TOP, ULTRA-RAGING, SUPER-GONZO FX, HUH, GEEK?
HOWSABOUT I EXTEND MY OTHER IN A MOLECULAR MONO-FILAMENT—
--RIGHT THROUGH THE RGB SCREEN THROUGH THE PROCESSOR AND THE MODEM...
...DOWN THE PHONE LINE, PAST THE SWITCHING STATIONS, UP YOUR TRUNK LINE, INTO YOUR MODEM AND PROCESSOR--

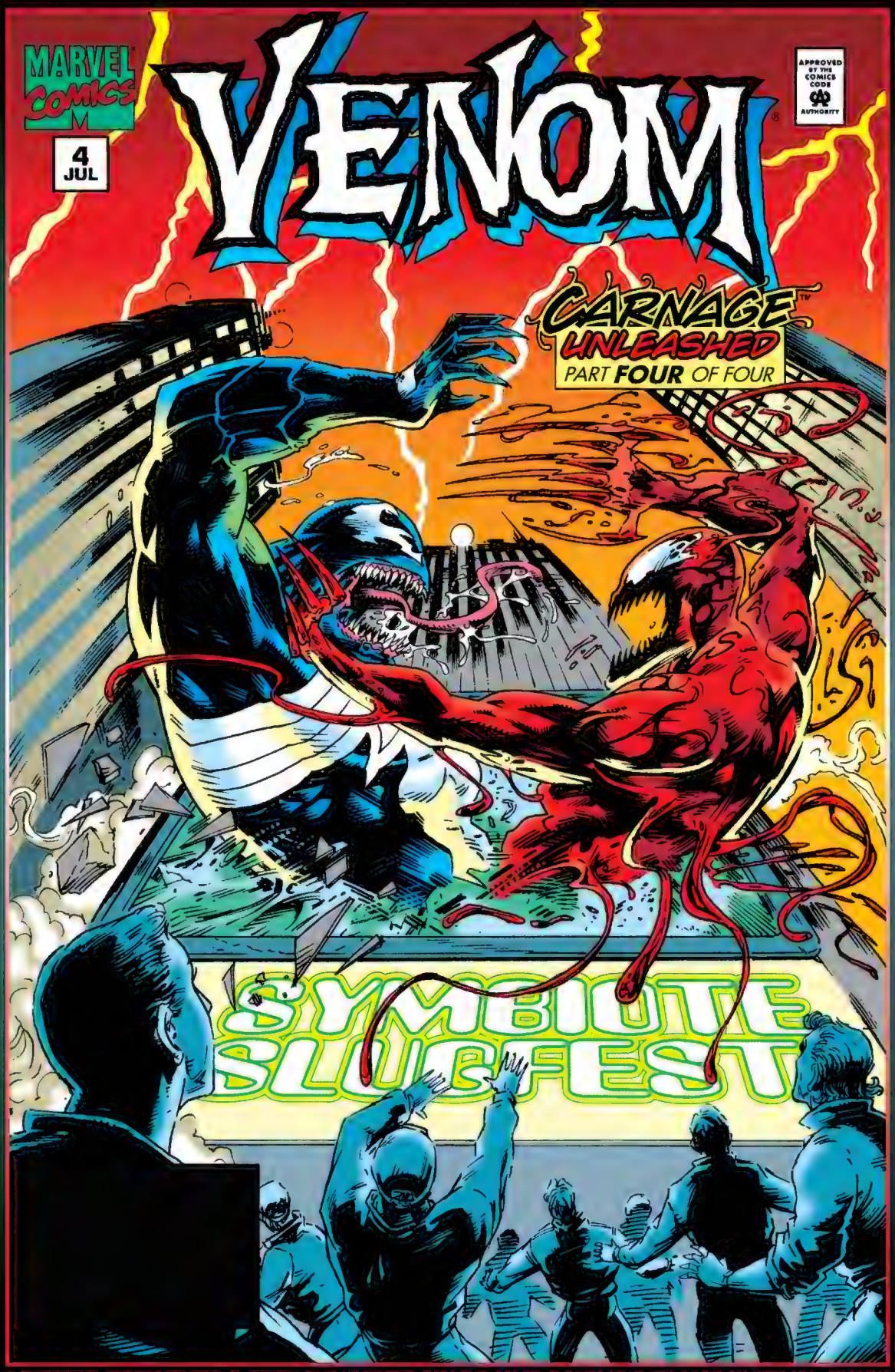

--AND RIGHT OUT THROUGH YOUR RGB SCREEN!
VERY CONVINCING 3-D IMAGING!
WHAT IS IT, SOME NEW TWIST ON LASER HOLOGRAPHY--?
RRRP-SKREEAWK
EEEEYAAA!
--IT'S REAL!!
AIN'T IT GREAT TO BE ON-LINE?
NO, DUMMY--


HAR! I'VE SEEN SOME CHEESY SPECIAL EFFECTS IN MY TIME, BUT THAT ONE TAKES THE CAKE!
THAT WAS DOWN THERE WITH PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE!
WHAT IS THAT ON THE WALL, PIZZA SAUCE?
UH, YOU PEOPLE DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE--THIS IS A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION --
AIN'T NOTHIN' POTENTIAL ABOUT IT, FORDO--
--IT'S WHAT YA MIGHT CALL...
SCHLOOK!
GACK!!
LIKK!
GLICK!
...HAPPENIN'!!
COMPUTER GEEKS REALLY MAKE MY TEETH HURT--
SAY, EXACTLY HOW MANY OTHER GEEKS IS THIS THING HOOKED UP TO, ANYWAY?? HUNDREDS?
THOUSANDS? HUH? HUH?


IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
...THE CALL WAS FOR A JUMPER, BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS TO BE CAREFUL IN CASE HE WAS A PUSHEE--
YEAH, AND THE PUSHER MIGHT STILL BE AROUND!
THE GUY DID FIVE FLOORS ON HIS FACE. WE'RE IN NO HURRY!
HEY-- MMFHH--
IS THAT SOMEBODY UP THERE?
THIS IS ADAM 6-3, REQUESTING A BACK-UP--
KEEP IT QUIET, KIRSTIN! YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT I DIDN'T FULLY INTEND FOR HIM TO DIE! I THOUGHT--
ATTENTION ALL UNITS! CARNAGE HAS BEEN SPOTTED AT THE PARVENU TOWERS! ALL UNITS PROCEED THERE AT ONCE!
LET'S GO!
HE'S HERE IN TOWN!!
HE'S MINE!!!
YOU MURDERER!!
I'M GOING TO DEVOTE MY WHOLE LIFE TO SEEING THAT YOU PAY!!


YOU HEAR THAT, MR. FREDDY BLOCK, OR VENOM, OR WHOEVER YOU ARE--
--YOU'RE GOING TO PAY!!
BRING THE SPINAL BOARD!
OXYGEN-- BRING THE THROAT TUBE!
WHA--?
THIS GUY'S STILL ALIVE!!!
BOTH LEGS ARE BROKEN AND HE'S GOT A FRACTURED SPINE--
EVEN IF HE MAKES IT TO THE ER, HE'S GONNA BE PARALYZED FOR LIFE!
MEDIC
.....


NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT WITH US !!
ARRRRGH! WE JUST DON'T DESERVE TO HAVE SO MUCH PSYCHIC PAIN !!
BUT WE CAN FIX IT RIGHT UP, CAN'T WE ??
WE WILL FIX IT RIGHT UP WITH SOME FEEL-GOOD ROMPING AND STOMPING ON OUR OLD PAL CARNAGE !!!
NEXT: THE GUT-WRENCHING CONCLUSION!


MARVEL COMICS
4
JUL
VENOM
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
CARNAGE™
UNLEASHED
PART FOUR OF FOUR
SYMBIOTE SLUGFEST


HE'S UP THERE.
HE'S HOLED UP IN THE PENTHOUSE OF COMPUTER GAME MAGNATE FORDHAM RHODES WITH A BUNCH OF HOSTAGES.
HE'S RIGHT UP THERE, AND WE HATE HIM AS MUCH OR MORE THAN WE HATE SPIDER-MAN, AND LET US TELL YOU, THAT'S SAYING A LOT!
WE WANT TO SINK OUR FINGERS INTO HIS HEAD ABOVE HIS HAIRLINE...
...AND RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN!!!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED, PART 4

CAN'T GET NO RELIEF!!

WE'RE COMING FOR YOU, CARNAGE!!! WE'RE--

WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!

THAT WAS AN ALL UNIT CALL WE OVERHEARD ON THE COP'S RADIO DOWN IN THE EAST VILLAGE*---

--EVERY COP IN TOWN IS UP HERE TO GET A PIECE OF CARNAGE!!

TAKE HIM DOWN!!

BLOW HIS KIDNEYS BACK TO HOBOKEN!!

THAT'S NOT CARNAGE! THAT'S THE OTHER WACKO-- VENOM!!

BLAM BLAM

RATATATATAT

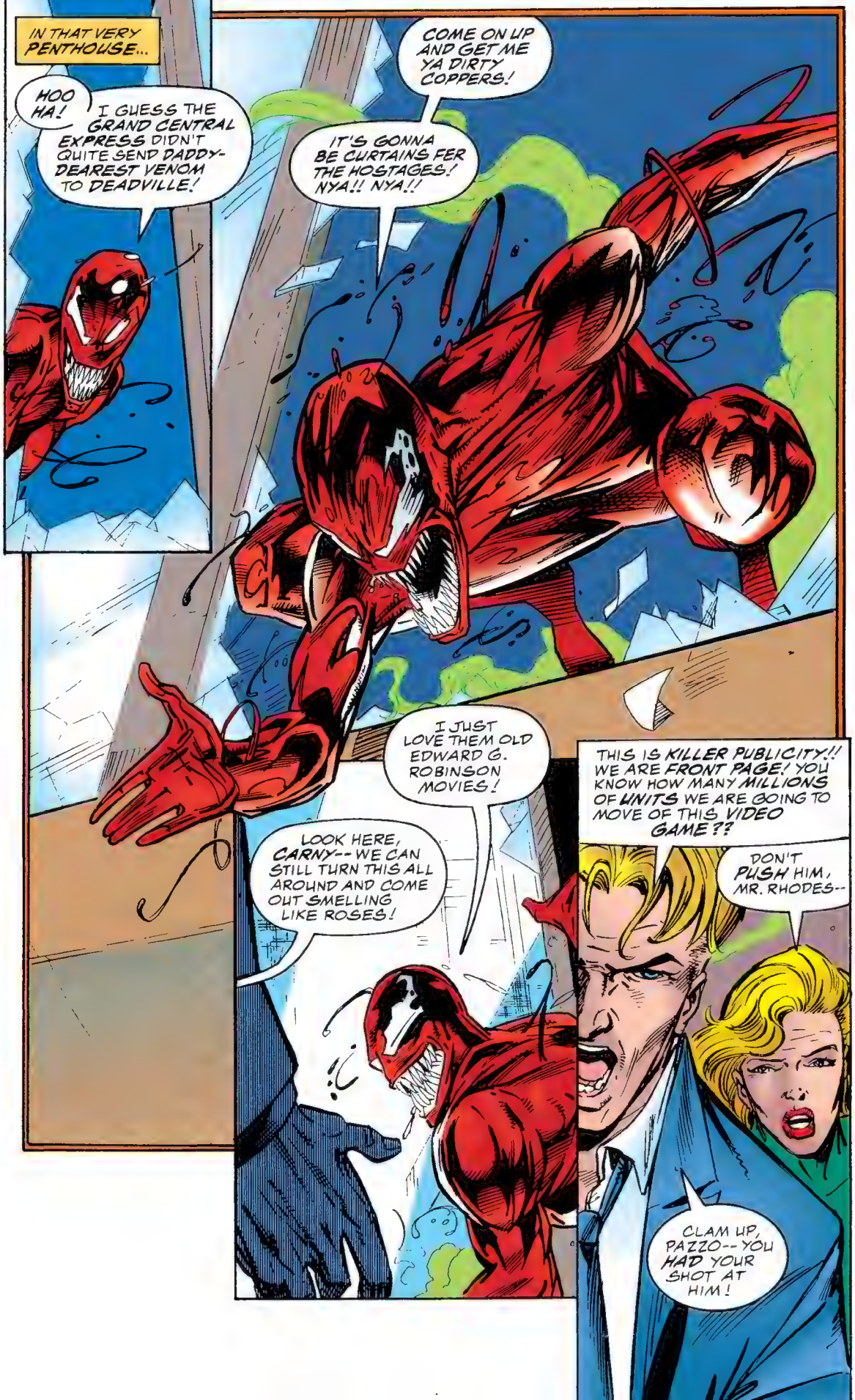
ONE SYMBIOTE PSYCHO-KILLER IS AS GOOD AS THE NEXT, RIGHT? JUST SHUT UP AND WASTE HIM!

SOMEBODY RADIO THAT SWAT TEAM ON THE ROOF TO BUSHWHACK HIM!

* LAST ISSUE! --ERIC

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LETTERING: KEN LOPEZ
EDITOR: ERIC FEIN
GROUP EDITOR: DANNY FINGEROTH
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THEY THREW A SOLID RING OF BLUE AROUND THE PARVENU TOWERS!
NO WAY TO GET THROUGH THAT WITHOUT A TANK!
NAIL HIM IN A CROSS-FIRE!
RATATATATAT
BUT WE INTEND TO GET THROUGH THEM SOMEHOW. AND WHEN WE DO...
...WE'RE GOING TO SKEWER CARNAGE ON A SPIT AND CHAR-BROIL HIM UNTIL HE'S WELL DONE!
WE'VE DRIVEN VENOM OFF AND HE SEEMS TO BE HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF TIMES SQUARE!
NOW, IF WE CAN ONLY WINKLE CARNAGE OUT OF FORDHAM RHODES' PENTHOUSE...
THAT SHOULD PUSH HIS HEAT-WEAKNESSES INTO OVERDRIVE!
MAKE WAY, CHUMPS!


IN THAT VERY PENTHOUSE...
HOO HA! I GUESS THE GRAND CENTRAL EXPRESS DIDN'T QUITE SEND DADDY-DEAREST VENOM TO DEADVILLE!
COME ON UP AND GET ME YA DIRTY COPPERS!
IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FER THE HOSTAGES! NYA!! NYA!!
I JUST LOVE THEM OLD EDWARD G. ROBINSON MOVIES!
LOOK HERE, CARNY-- WE CAN STILL TURN THIS ALL AROUND AND COME OUT SMELLING LIKE ROSES!
THIS IS KILLER PUBLICITY!! WE ARE FRONT PAGE! YOU KNOW HOW MANY MILLIONS OF UNITS WE ARE GOING TO MOVE OF THIS VIDEO GAME??
DON'T PUSH HIM, MR. RHODES--
CLAM UP, PAZZO-- YOU HAD YOUR SHOT AT HIM!


MILLIONS, HUH?
AND WHAT WAS MY CUT GONNA BE?!
I'LL TELL YA--
--EL ZIPPO NADA!!!
CARNAGE UNLEASHED!
NET CONNECTION ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
RAVENCROFT WAS GONNA GET A FEW NEW PARCHEESI BOARDS AND MAYBE A POTHOLDER LOOM OR TWO, BUT CLETUS? CLETUS COMES UP GOOSE EGGS!!!
NOT IF WE REALLY PLAY IT SMART! WE COULD SET UP AN ACCOUNT FOR YOU IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, WE COULD--
LIVE NE ON TIMES SQUARE SCREEN
YOU SAID MILLIONS?
HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE CONNECTED TO THE NET?
CAN I ACCESS THEM ALL THROUGH YOUR RIG?? HAH???
NO! YOU CAN'T BE THINKING--
HEY-- NO SUCH THING AS BAD PUBLICITY!


WE'RE NOT GOING TO RIP HIS FACE DOWN OVER HIS CHIN--
--WE'RE GOING TO RIP IT DOWN OVER HIS KNEES!! WE'RE GOING TO--
WHU--???
RNAGE LEASHED!
ON-LINE???
THEY HAD A HOOKUP SET TO DISPLAY A LIVE GAME ON THIS ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD???
VE ON-LINE HOOK-UP RIGHT HERE!
THAT MEANS THEY HAVE A MODEM CONNECTION TO RAVENCROFT AND MAYBE EVEN TO FORDHAM RHODES!
ONE WAY TO FIND OUT--
--USE MY OTHER'S MORPHING ABILITY--!
I GOT A RUSH DELIVERY FOR THE GUYS WHO CONTROL THE BILLBOARD. TENTH FLOOR, RIGHT?
NO, TOP FLOOR-- ROOM 30-38!


IN 30-38...
GET IT THROUGH YOUR TECHNOID NOODLE, SOLSKI-- THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY LIVE HOOKUP!
THE STAR HAS ABSCONDED!! SO EIGHTY-SIX ALL THIS PROMO STUFF YOU'RE RUNNING, PRONTO!!
WHO SAYS THE HOOKUP IS OFF?
I'VE GOT FORDHAM RHODES ON THE LINE HERE AND HE SAYS THE CARNAGE MAN IS GOING ON LINE!
WE GOT A SHOW TO PUT ON, BABE!!
TELL HIM WE'RE OPENING THE GAME ON THE WHOLE NET! TELL HIM IT'S FREE! LET'S PACK THE HOUSE, FORDY!! I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE THE ETHERNET!!!
YOU THE FOLKS WHO CONTROL THE BILL-BOARD?
JUST LEAVE IT AND WE'LL SIGN FOR IT LATER--
THERE'S A HUMUNGO CROWD FORMING OUT THERE ALREADY, MR. RHODES! AS VARIETY MIGHT SAY, WE ARE TALKING "CARNAGE VID GAME BOFFO," HERE!
WE ARE TALKING VENOM, HERE!


IS THIS COMPUTER HOOKED UP WITH THE ONE WHERE CARNAGE IS??
DON'T JUST STAND THERE WITH YOUR JAWS FLAPPING! ANSWER US!!!
HIS MODEM IS TALKING TO MY MODEM EVEN AS WE SPEAK! HEAR THOSE SQUAWKS AND BEEPS??
WE ARE CONNECTED!!
IF A MENTAL DEFICIENT LIKE CARNAGE CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO SEND HIS OTHER THROUGH THE NET, WE CERTAINLY CAN!!
THIS IS GONNA BE A BIG OVERLOAD ON THE SYSTEM!
GOOD THING I INSTALLED THAT NEW HEAT SINK AND FAN OR ELSE MY CPU WOULD GO INTO MELTDOWN!!


COME ON IN AND PLAY-- O, MY PRODIGAL! THE ETHERNET IS FINE!
HOW DID HE GET ON THERE ???
PROBABLY THE SAME WAY YOU DID!
BY ENTERING THE SYSTEM ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL!
I'M COMING IN TO GET MEDIEVAL ON YA, POPS--!
WHAT THE HECK IS PRODDY GULL ANYWAY?
GREAT! TIME TO BREAK OUT THE FIVE STAR COGNAC AND LIGHT UP A COFFIN NAIL!
THEY'RE GOING TO FIGHT ON THE ETHERNET! IS THERE ANY WAY TO GET THIS ON LINE?
YOU KNOW I HAVE A WHOLE PARTNERSHIP THAT'S VACANT!!
YOU KNOW, ALANA-- THAT COGNAC ISN'T A BAD IDEA! IS THAT A REAL DUNHILL LIGHTER?


THIS IS AMAZING! I CAN ACTUALLY "SEE" THROUGH MY OTHER AS IT NAVIGATES THE CIRCUITS!
WHERE ARE YOU, CARNAGE--?
YOU'RE NOT TURNING CHICKEN ON ME, ARE YOU?
NO WAY, VENOM--
--LET'S THROW DOWN!
YOW! THESE GUYS ARE CONNECTED ON THE ACTUAL GAME PROGRAM!
I CAN EMULATE THIS STUFF INTO GAME GRAPHICS AND SEND IT OUT ON THE NET!
DO IT, FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY, DO IT!!!

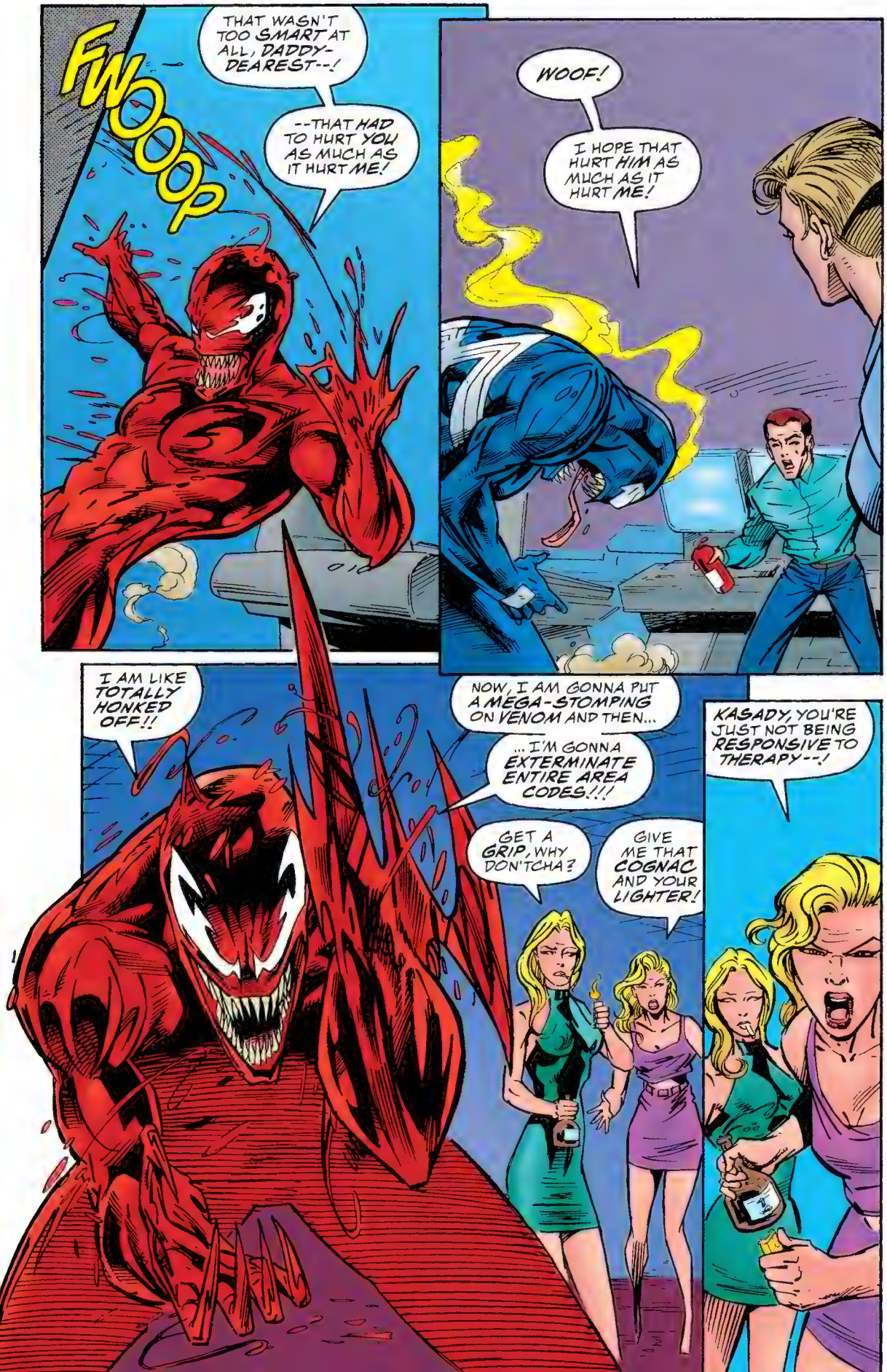

UNNGGGHHH!
LET'S CUT THE IDLE CHIT-CHAT AND GO RIGHT FOR THE THROAT, SHALL WE?
HOLY--
BUT I'M NOT WORRIED!!
GOOD MOVE, DAD-OF-MINE!!
GAAA!
NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT, WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED--
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!!
YOU ARE THROWING A MONKEY WRENCH INTO A DEAL THAT'S WORTH FORT KNOX!!


IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT WORLD IN HERE, DADDY-CAKES--!
IT'S ELECTRIC CANDY-LAND HOO-HA-VILLE!
YEAH? IT'S MORE LIKE DEAD END CITY FOR YOU!!
GET READY TO START DRAWING UP A CONTRACT AND SIGN A CHECK, MR. RHODES!!
I'M ABOUT TO PUT THESE BAD BOYS ON THE BIG SCREEN!!!
YOU KNOW, FORDY-- I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WERE MUCH OF A BOY FRIEND...
BONK
...AND NOW I KNOW YOU DON'T RATE TOO HIGH AS A HUMAN, EITHER!


YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
YOU ARE WASHED-UP, OLD-TIMER!!
WHY DON'T YOU ROLL OVER AND DIE AND LET THE NEW GENERATION TAKE OVER!!
I'M NOT READY TO GIVE IN TO STUPIDITY AND UGLINESS JUST YET!!
HEY--CHECK THIS OUT!!!


STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES, VENOM!!
I CAN STOMP YOUR REAL BUTT AND YOUR CYBER BUTT!
CARNAGE HAS THE UPPER HAND IN HERE! HE'S HAD MORE EXPERIENCE NAVIGATING CYBER-SPACE--
--BUT I KNOW A WAY TO FRY HIS FRIJOLES!
THIS MUST BE THE HEAT SINK THAT THE BILLBOARD TECHNOID WAS TALKING ABOUT--
--ALL I HAVE TO DO, IS...

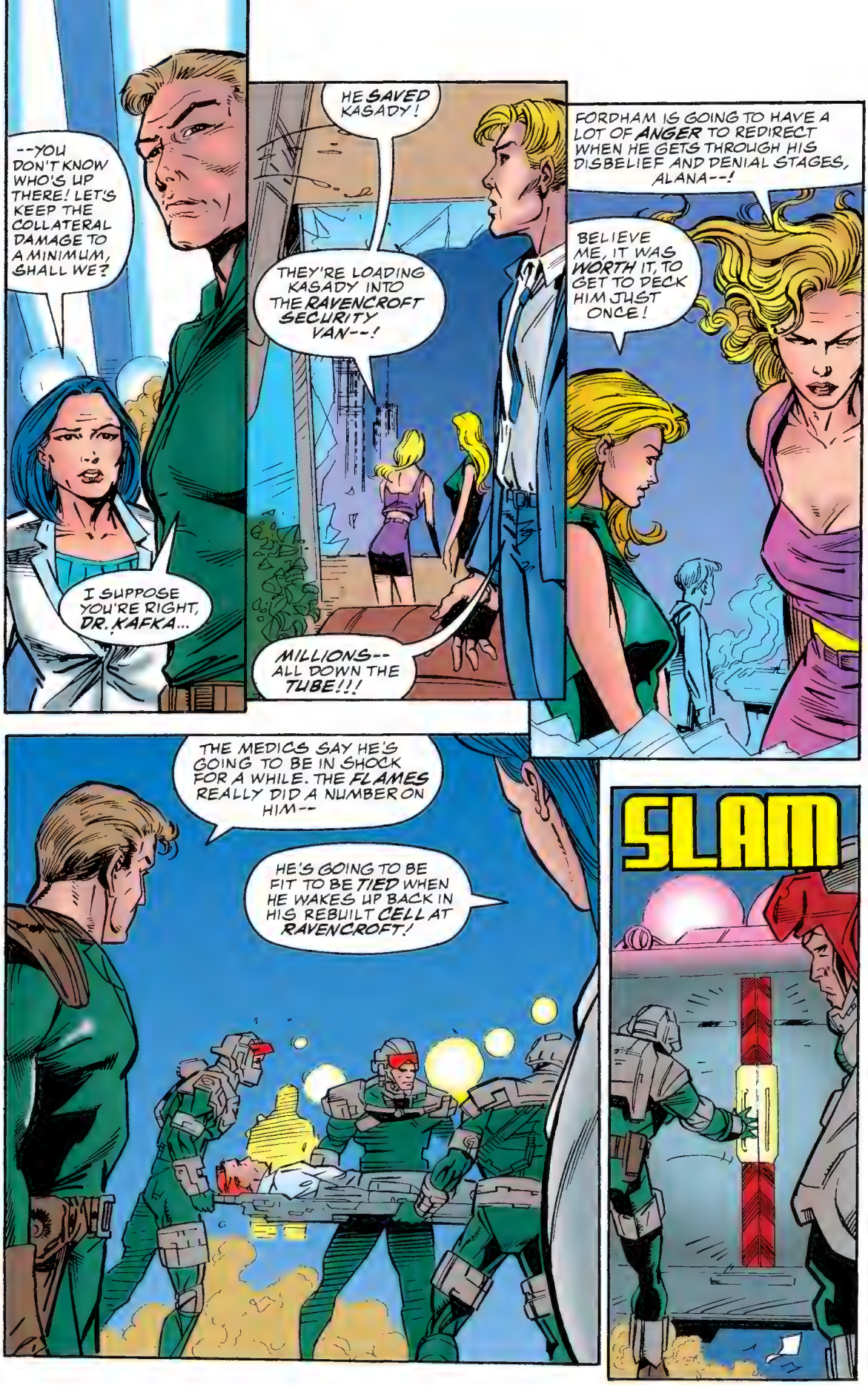

...TOTAL IT!!
I'M KILLING THE A.C., JUNIOR!!
HUH?
WHOA!!
MAJOR EQUIPMENT INCINERATION HERE!!
EEEEYAAAAA!
HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU??
FA-SHOOM!
AWESOME FX!
NOT TOO SHABBY AT ALL!

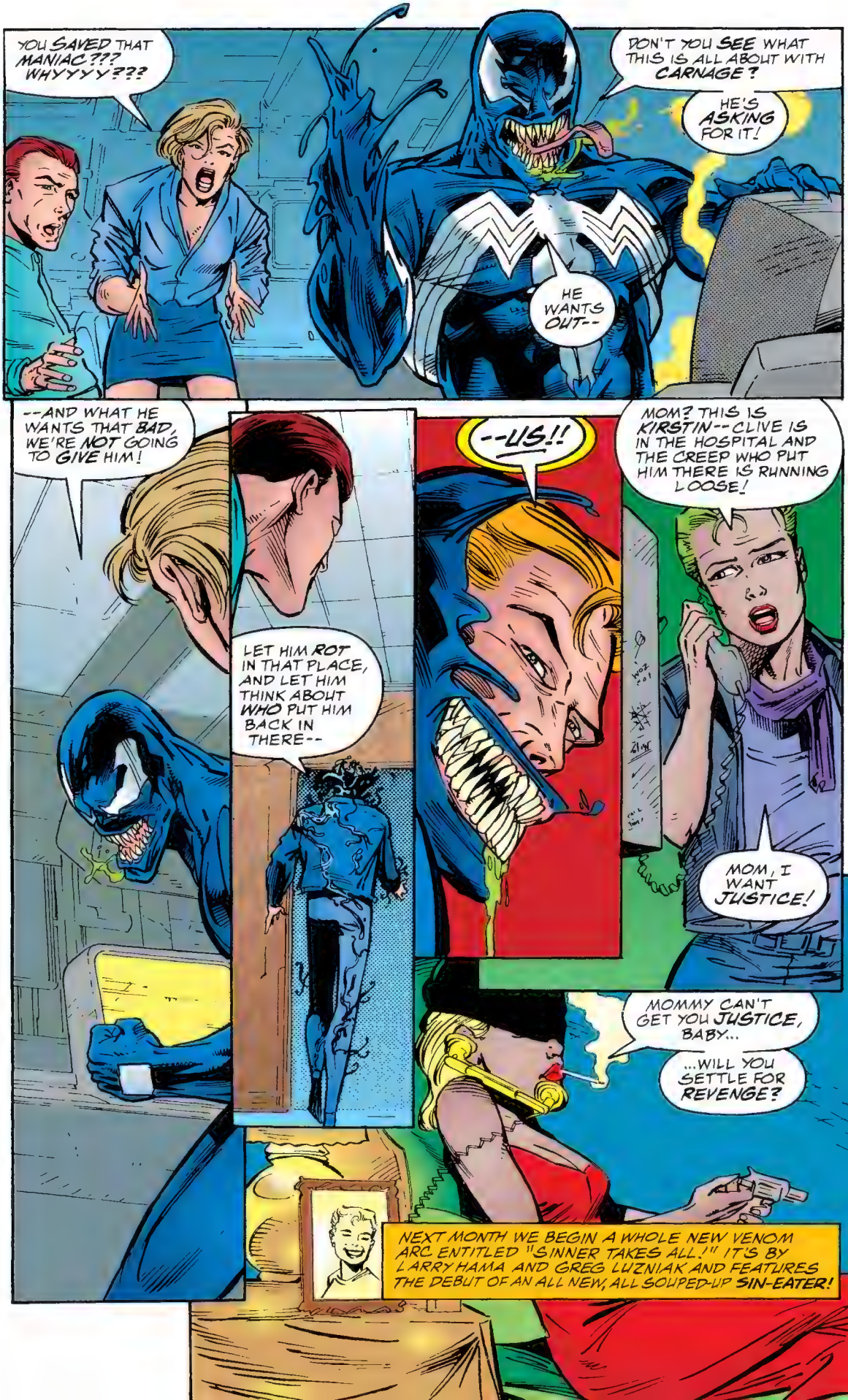

FWOOOP
THAT WASN'T TOO SMART AT ALL, DADDY-DEAREST--!
--THAT HAD TO HURT YOU AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
WOOF!
I HOPE THAT HURT HIM AS MUCH AS IT HURT ME!
I AM LIKE TOTALLY HONKED OFF!!
NOW, I AM GONNA PUT A MEGA-STOMPING ON VENOM AND THEN...
...I'M GONNA EXTERMINATE ENTIRE AREA CODES!!!
GET A GRIP, WHY DON'TCHA?
GIVE ME THAT COGNAC AND YOUR LIGHTER!
KASADY, YOU'RE JUST NOT BEING RESPONSIVE TO THERAPY--!

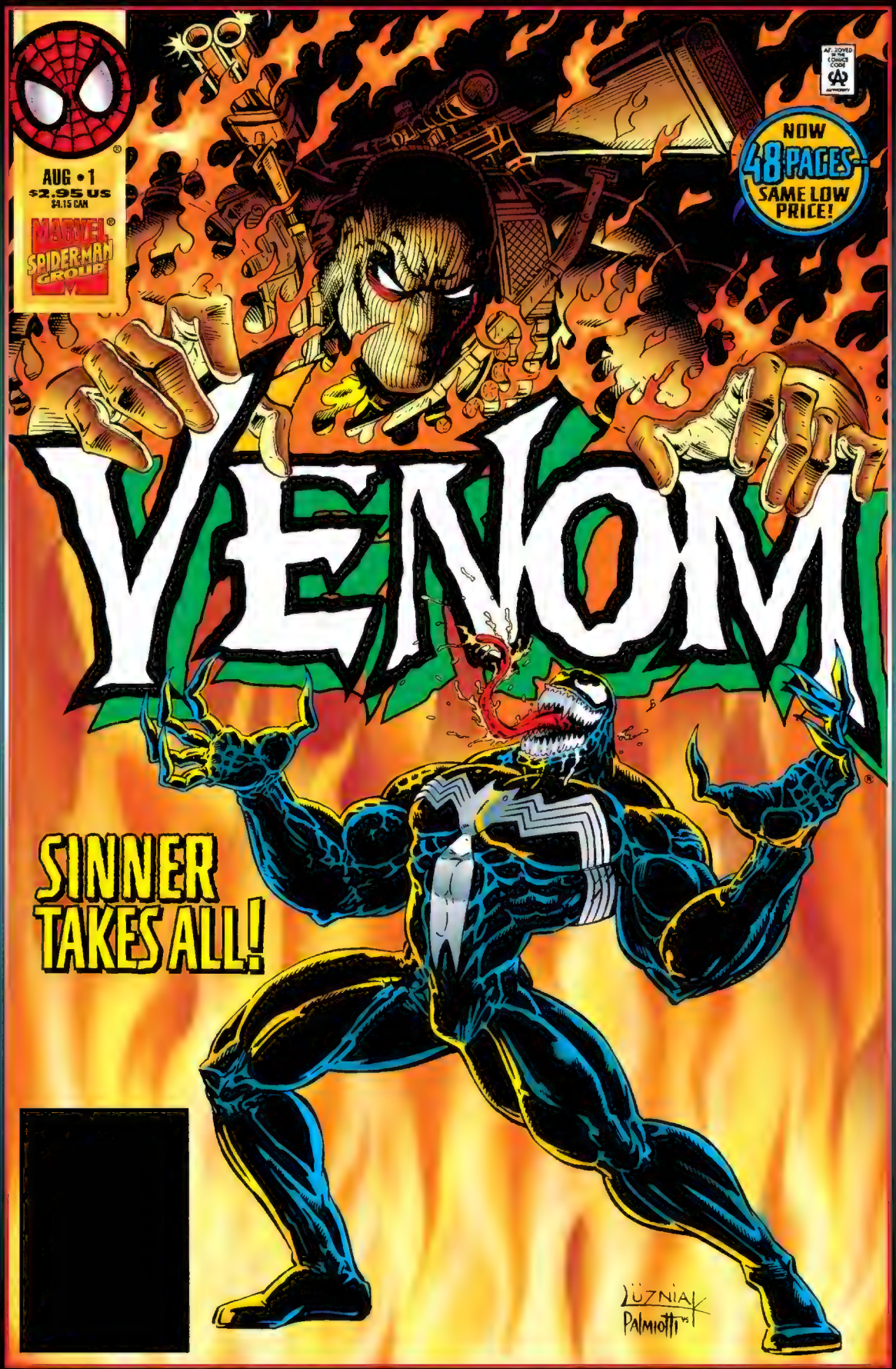

AND ALTHOUGH I MAY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO YOU AS A PATIENT...
SPLOOSH
...THE REST OF HUMANITY TAKES PRECEDENCE!!
FLIK
FOOMP
AARRRGH!
GAAAAA!! PUT IT OUT! PUT IT OUT!
PUT IT--
KEE-RRASH!

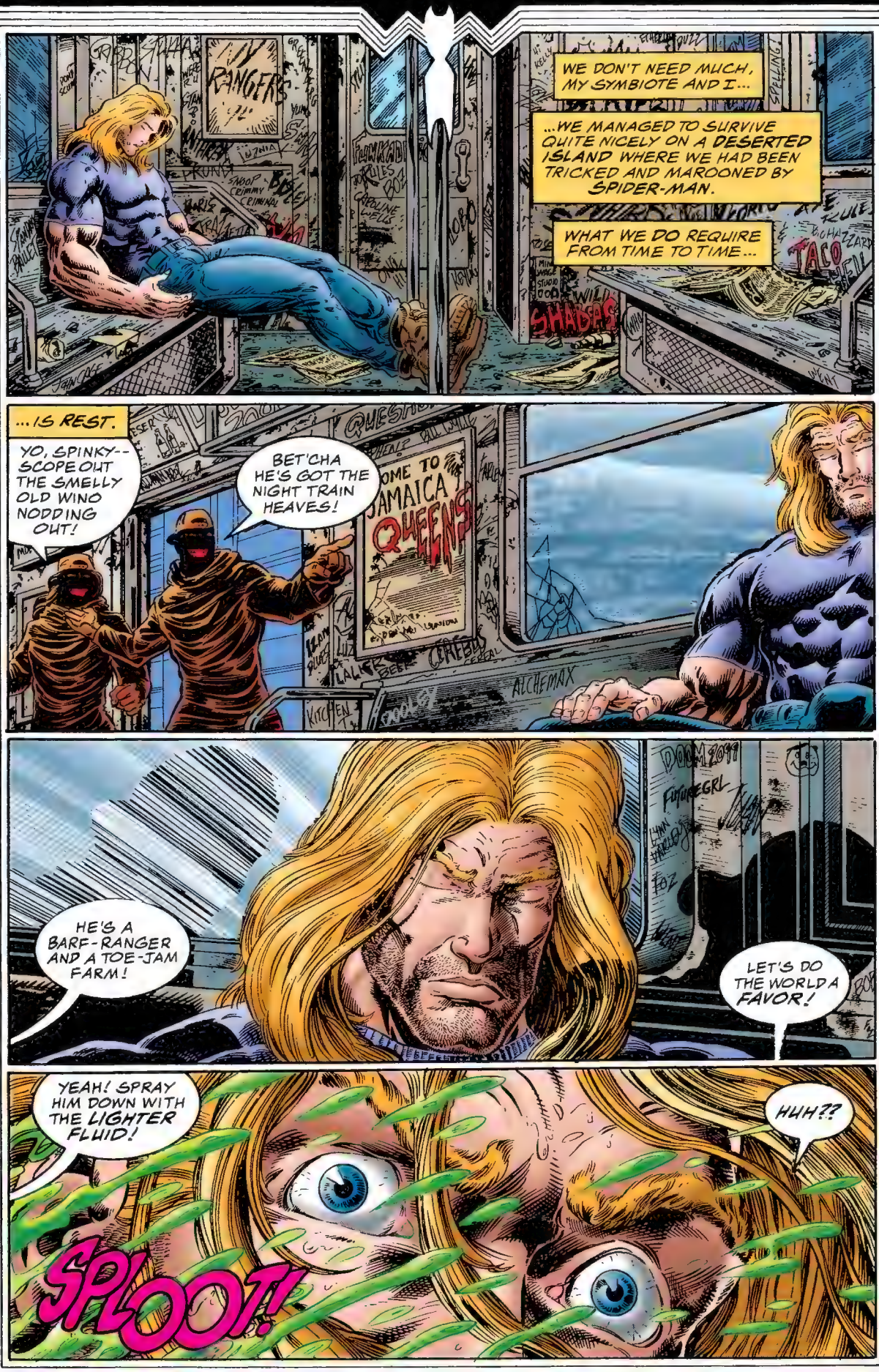

THAT'S TOO EASY!
HE HAS TO SUFFER A LOT MORE THAN THAT!!!
HE'S TAKING THE FLAMING SIDEWALK PLUNGE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, YOU EVIL WITCH!!
ARE YOU EVER A SICK PUPPY!
WHAAAAA?
OOOOOOH!!


WHERE DID HE GO??
OUT THE WINDOW--!
THIS IS GOING TO BE CLOSE--
--VERY CLOSE!!
FWOMP!
THAT TENDRIL--!!
THWIPP!
WHAT THE--
--THAT'S VENOM!!
OPEN FIRE ON IT!! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!
LET HIM GO, JAMESON--


--YOU DON'T KNOW WHO'S UP THERE! LET'S KEEP THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM, SHALL WE?
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, DR. KAFKA...
HE SAVED KASADY!
THEY'RE LOADING KASADY INTO THE RAVENCROFT SECURITY VAN--!
MILLIONS-- ALL DOWN THE TUBE!!!
FORDHAM IS GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF ANGER TO REDIRECT WHEN HE GETS THROUGH HIS DISBELIEF AND DENIAL STAGES, ALANA--!
BELIEVE ME, IT WAS WORTH IT, TO GET TO DECK HIM JUST ONCE!
THE MEDICS SAY HE'S GOING TO BE IN SHOCK FOR A WHILE. THE FLAMES REALLY DID A NUMBER ON HIM--
HE'S GOING TO BE FIT TO BE TIED WHEN HE WAKES UP BACK IN HIS REBUILT CELL AT RAVENCROFT!
SLAM


YOU SAVED THAT MANIAC??? WHYYYY???
DON'T YOU SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT WITH CARNAGE?
HE'S ASKING FOR IT!
HE WANTS OUT--
--AND WHAT HE WANTS THAT BAD, WE'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE HIM!
LET HIM ROT IN THAT PLACE, AND LET HIM THINK ABOUT WHO PUT HIM BACK IN THERE--
--US!!
MOM? THIS IS KIRSTIN--CLIVE IS IN THE HOSPITAL AND THE CREEP WHO PUT HIM THERE IS RUNNING LOOSE!
MOM, I WANT JUSTICE!
MOMMY CAN'T GET YOU JUSTICE, BABY...
...WILL YOU SETTLE FOR REVENGE?
NEXT MONTH WE BEGIN A WHOLE NEW VENOM ARC ENTITLED "SINNER TAKES ALL!" IT'S BY LARRY HAMA AND GREG LUZNIAK AND FEATURES THE DEBUT OF AN ALL NEW, ALL SOUPED-UP SIN-EATER!


AUG • 1
$2.95 US
$4.15 CAN
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP
NOW 48 PAGES— SAME LOW PRICE!
VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL!
LUZNIAK
PALMIOTTI


WE DON'T NEED MUCH, MY SYMBIOTE AND I...
...WE MANAGED TO SURVIVE QUITE NICELY ON A DESERTED ISLAND WHERE WE HAD BEEN TRICKED AND MAROONED BY SPIDER-MAN.
WHAT WE DO REQUIRE FROM TIME TO TIME...
...IS REST.
YO, SPINKY--SCOPE OUT THE SMELLY OLD WINO NODDING OUT!
BET'CHA HE'S GOT THE NIGHT TRAIN HEAVES!
HE'S A BARF-RANGER AND A TOE-JAM FARM!
LET'S DO THE WORLD A FAVOR!
YEAH! SPRAY HIM DOWN WITH THE LIGHTER FLUID!
HUH??
SPLOOT!

YEEEAARRRGHH!!

FOOOMP!

WOOF! WE HAVE A PRIMO IGNITION HERE!

WE SHOULDA BROUGHT SNOOR FIXINS!

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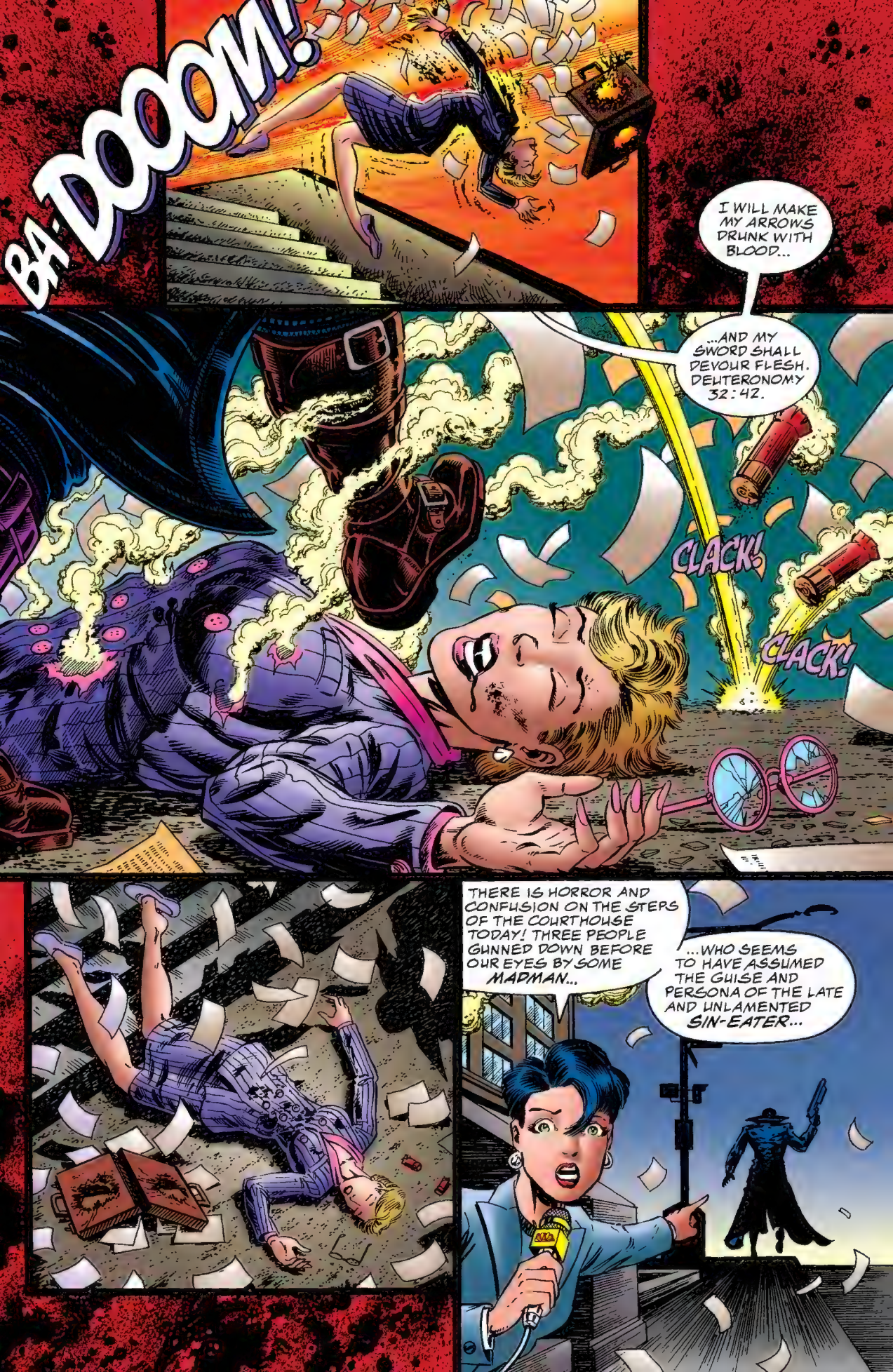

HOOOOO-- THAT SMARTS!!
LUCKILY, MY OTHER MANAGED TO SMOTHER THE FLAMES BEFORE WE WERE TOO BADLY BURNED!
IT'S THAT PSYCHO WITH THE ALIEN COSTUME...
...THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS FIGHTING SPIDER-MAN--
--VENOM!!
PSYCHO???
YOU MISERABLE STREET VERMIN HAVE THE UTTER GALL TO CALL US A PSYCHO????
YOU, WHO WEREN'T EVEN OUT TO ROB--
--BUT TO TORTURE AND MAIM??
GUH GUH GUH GUH!!!


KA-CHUNGG
YOU STREET SLIME ARE THE BARBARIANS AT THE GATE!
HONEST CITIZENS ARE SUBJECTED TO YOUR HEINOUS PREDATIONS BECAUSE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IS FAR TOO LAX!
WE, ON THE OTHER HAND, METE OUT PUNISHMENT LIMITED ONLY BY THE BOUNDARIES OF A LURID AND VIVID IMAGINATION!!
NAAARRGH!!
SNAP!
POP!
CRACKLE!

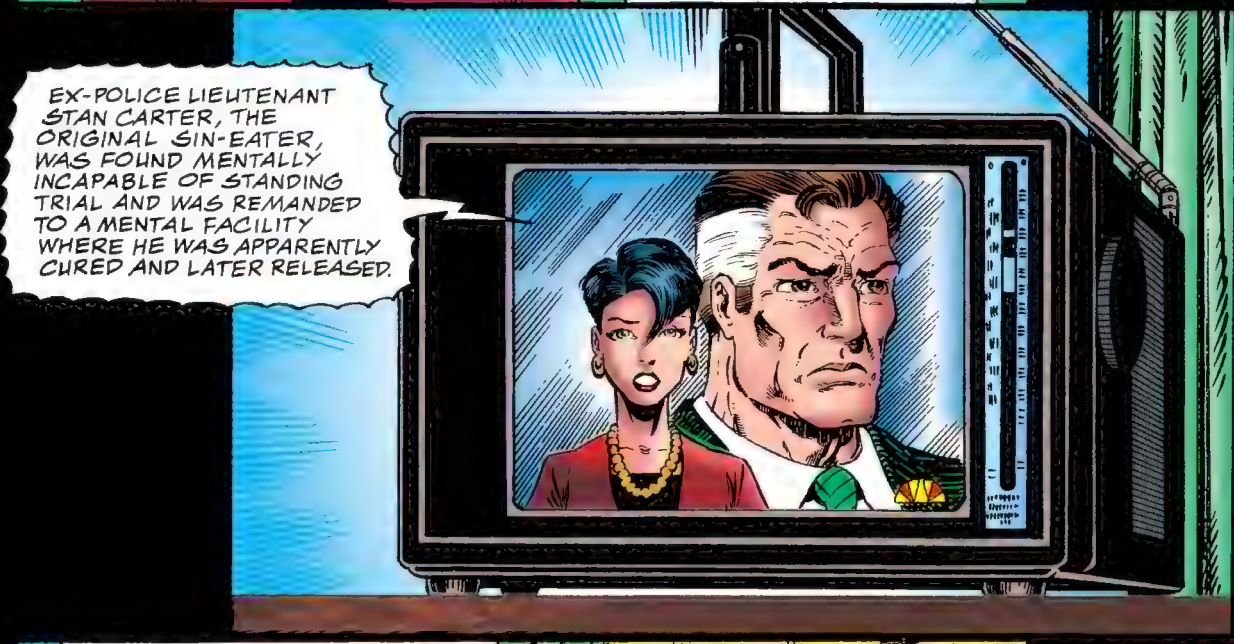

NEXT MORNING...
THIS IS TRISH TILBY REPORTING LIVE FROM THE STEPS OF THE FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN LOWER MANHATTAN...
...WHERE FORDHAM RHODES, CEO OF THE EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE VIDEO GAME COMPANY, IS ANSWERING CHARGES OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE IN THE RECENT CARNAGE UNLEASHED INCIDENT...
MR. RHODES, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU ARE DENYING ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATHS OF THE BETA-TESTERS WHO WERE HOOKED UP TO YOUR ON-LINE VIDEO GAME?
I'M F. BENNET FIELD, MR. RHODES' ATTORNEY.
MY CLIENT WAS THE UNWITTING DUPE OF THE INSIDIOUS DIRECTOR OF RAVENCROFT, DR. KAFKA!
HE WAS UTTERLY BLAMELESS, AND WE WILL PROVE THIS BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT!
I'LL BET.
ARE YOU AWARE THAT YOUR NEW LEGAL ASSISTANT, ANN WEYING, IS THE FORMER WIFE OF EDDIE BROCK, AKA VENOM?
IS SHE SERVING AS SOME SORT OF EXPERT ON SYMBIOTE BEHAVIOR?
CHANNEL 6
THIS IS FALLACIOUS AND UNTRUE, ISN'T IT, ANN?
I'M AFRAID NOT, MR. FIELD.

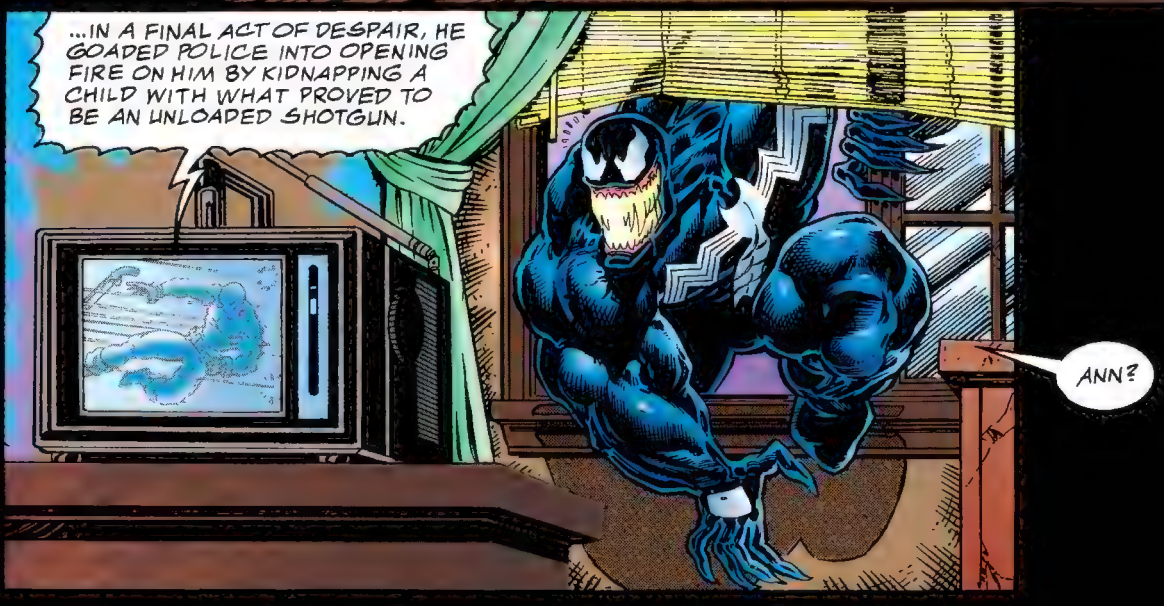

IF THE RIGHTEOUS ARE REPAID ON EARTH..
...HOW MUCH MORE THE WICKED AND THE SINNER! PROVERBS 11:31
HE'S GOT A GUN!!
RETRIBUTION TIME, MR. RHODES, WORSHIPPER OF MAMMON, COVETER OF WORDLY GOODS AND MURDERER!!
IT'S THE SIN-EATER!!
BUT HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!
DO SOMETHING, FIELD! SLAP AN INJUNCTION ON HIM, OR SOMETHING!!
GET AWAY FROM ME, RHODES--WRITS AREN'T BULLET-PROOF, YOU KNOW!
NOOOO!
BA-BOOOM!


CLACK
YOU JUST COMMITTED A CLASS A FELONY, YOUNG MAN--
--YOU'RE GOING TO NEED LEGAL REPRESENTATION!
PHARISEES, SCRIBES AND LAWMAKERS!
THE BOOK CALLS YOU THE "EVIL BROOD"!
THE VULTURES WHO FEED ON THE CARRION LEFT BY THE PREDATORS ARE EQUALLY EVIL...!
F. BENNETT FIELD
Attorney-at-Law
"I'M READY TO BELIEVE YOU"
YOU CAN'T SHOOT ME, I'M--
BA-DOOOM!
...ALL THE VULTURES!
OH MY LORD...
...PLEASE DON'T DO THIS-- PLEASE--

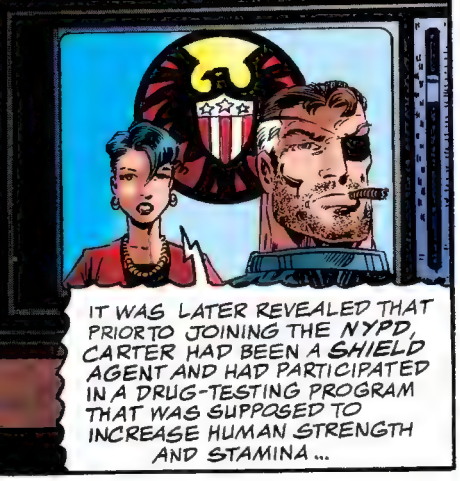

BA-DOOM!
I WILL MAKE MY ARROWS DRUNK WITH BLOOD...
...AND MY SWORD SHALL DEVOUR FLESH. DEUTERONOMY 32:42.
CLACK!
CLACK!
THERE IS HORROR AND CONFUSION ON THE STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE TODAY! THREE PEOPLE GUNNED DOWN BEFORE OUR EYES BY SOME MADMAN...
...WHO SEEMS TO HAVE ASSUMED THE GUISE AND PERSONA OF THE LATE AND UNLAMENTED SIN-EATER...

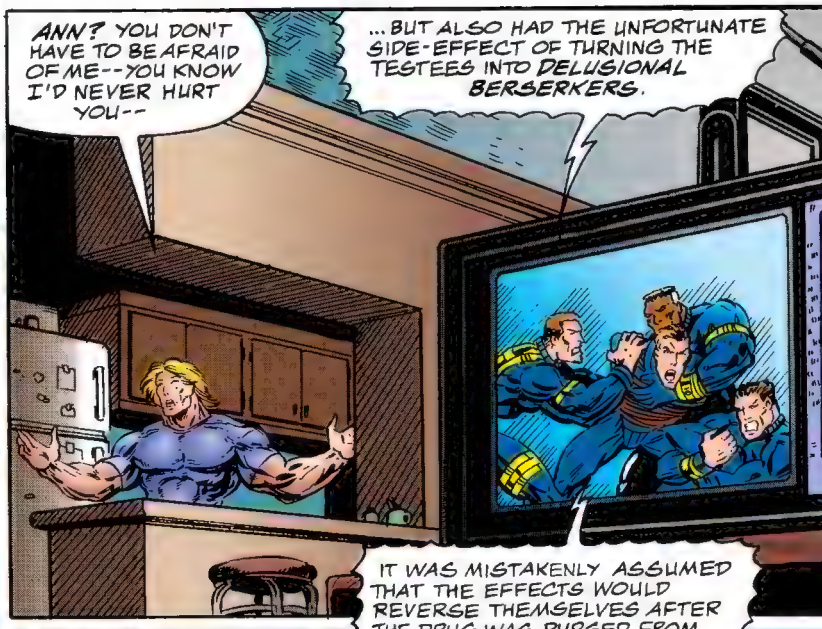

.. EIGHT HOURS LATER AND I STILL FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED ON THE STERS OF THE COURT HOUSE THIS MORNING!
WHO IS THIS NEW INCARNATION OF THE INFAMOUS SIN EATER?
AND EVEN IF HE IS A MERE COPYCAT, HE HAS PROVEN TO BE JUST AS DEADLY AS HIS NOTORIOUS NAMESAKE!

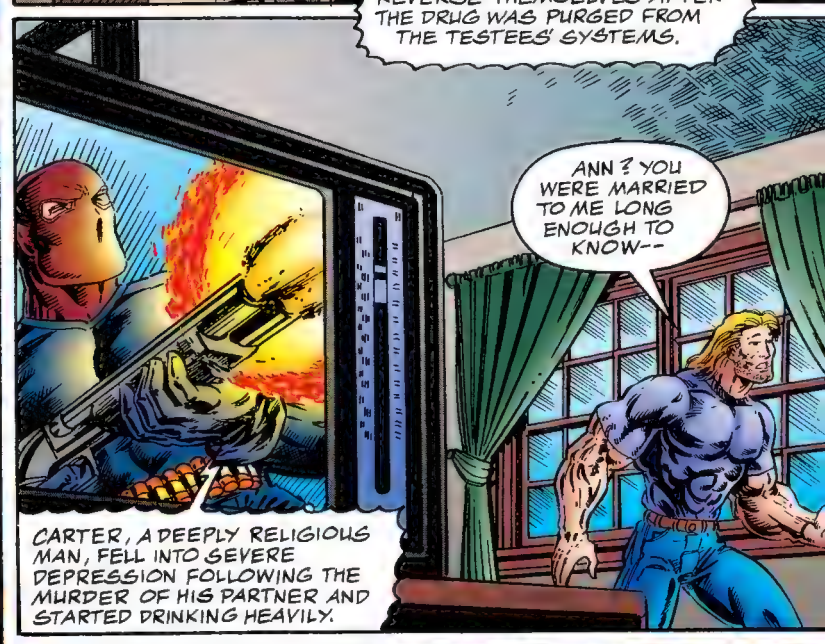

EX-POLICE LIEUTENANT STAN CARTER, THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER, WAS FOUND MENTALLY INCAPABLE OF STANDING TRIAL AND WAS REMANDED TO A MENTAL FACILITY WHERE HE WAS APPARENTLY CURED AND LATER RELEASED.

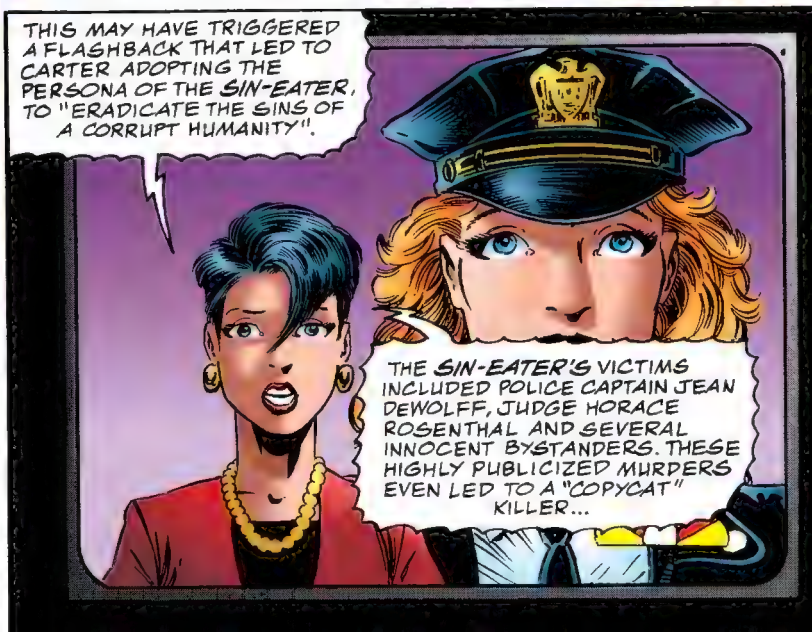

...IN A FINAL ACT OF DESPAIR, HE GOADED POLICE INTO OPENING FIRE ON HIM BY KIDNAPPING A CHILD WITH WHAT PROVED TO BE AN UNLOADED SHOTGUN.
ANN?


IT'S EDDIE...
ANN, I KNOW I'M THE LAST PERSON YOU WANT TO SEE, BUT I'M HURTING AND I'VE GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO GO--


IT WAS LATER REVEALED THAT PRIOR TO JOINING THE NYPD, CARTER HAD BEEN A SHIELD AGENT AND HAD PARTICIPATED IN A DRUG-TESTING PROGRAM THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO INCREASE HUMAN STRENGTH AND STAMINA...


ANN? YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF ME--YOU KNOW I'D NEVER HURT YOU--
...BUT ALSO HAD THE UNFORTUNATE SIDE-EFFECT OF TURNING THE TESTEES INTO DELUSIONAL BERSERKERS.


IT WAS MISTAKENLY ASSUMED THAT THE EFFECTS WOULD REVERSE THEMSELVES AFTER THE DRUG WAS PURGED FROM THE TESTEES' SYSTEMS.
ANN? YOU WERE MARRIED TO ME LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW--
CARTER, A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS MAN, FELL INTO SEVERE DEPRESSION FOLLOWING THE MURDER OF HIS PARTNER AND STARTED DRINKING HEAVILY.


THIS MAY HAVE TRIGGERED A FLASHBACK THAT LED TO CARTER ADOPTING THE PERSONA OF THE SIN-EATER, TO "ERADICATE THE SINS OF A CORRUPT HUMANITY".
THE SIN-EATER'S VICTIMS INCLUDED POLICE CAPTAIN JEAN DEWOLFF, JUDGE HORACE ROSENTHAL AND SEVERAL INNOCENT BYSTANDERS. THESE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED MURDERS EVEN LED TO A "COPYCAT" KILLER...


...EMIL GREGG ACTUALLY CONFESSED TO BEING THE SIN EATER BEFORE THE CAPTURE OF CARTER, AND HE WAS EVEN ARMED WITH THE REAL SHOTGUN AND WEARING THE REAL COSTUME, BUT HE TURNED OUT TO BE CARTER'S NEIGHBOR--
GREGG WAS A DISTURBED INDIVIDUAL TO BEGIN WITH WHO HEARD CARTER'S PARANOID RAVINGS IN THE NIGHT AND TOOK THEM TO BE VOICES FROM BEYOND, GIVING HIM INSTRUCTION.
GREGG WAS RELEASED ON HIS OWN RECOGNIZANCE AND HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN. COULD EMIL GREGG HAVE REVIVED HIS PREVIOUS DELUSION?
SHE'S NOT HERE.
SHE PROBABLY LEAVES THE T.V. ON TO FOOL WOULD-BE BURGLARS--
COULD HE BE THE MASKED MAN WHO GUNNED DOWN COMPUTER GAME MAGNATE FORDHAM RHODES AND HIS ATTORNEY F. BENNET FIELD ON THE STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE...
I'D BETTER TURN IT OFF AND--
...AND SERIOUSLY WOUNDED FIELD'S LEGAL ASSISTANT ANN WEYING?
WHAT??


MEANWHILE...
...I MUST ADMIT, CHIEF REILLY-- I'M A BIT AMAZED AT THE SHEER AMOUNT OF POLICE PROTECTION I'M RECEIVING...
IDTOWN CAL CENTER
BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY. THAT'S WHAT EAMON X. REILLY SAYS!
I'VE ASSIGNED TWENTY E.S.U.* OFFICERS IN AN IN-DEPTH CORDON AROUND THIS HOSPITAL TO GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY...
...DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT I'M STILL IN DANGER FROM THE SIN-EATER?
* EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT.
"...THERE ARE SNIPERS ON THE ROOF...
"... A UNIFORMED PRESENCE AT THE DOORS...
"... S.W.A.T. TEAMS ROVING THE HALLS...
"...AND UNDERCOVER OPERATIVES AT KEY LOCATIONS!"
THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO WAY THAT THIS WACKO CAN EVEN GET BY THE FRONT DOOR!


PA-THOOM!
I WANT A SITUATION REPORT, IMMEDIATELY!
WE'VE GOT THREE OFFICERS DOWN AT THE FRONT DOOR, AND MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE!
THE MAIN ELECTRICAL CONDUIT UNDER THE STREET HAS BEEN BLOWN UP--ALL POWER HAS BEEN KNOCKED OUT FOR A TEN SQUARE BLOCK GRID!!
GET DOWN TO THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR ROOM AND SECURE IT ASAP!!
WHOMP
GENERATOR ROOM
SECURE!
NO, IT'S NOT--
--LOOK!
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK...
BACK OUT!
CALL THE BOMB SQUAD--
PA-THOOOOOM!
THE LIGHTS! WHAT HAPPENED TO--
GET A ROVING S.W.A.T. TEAM DOWN TO THE FRONT DOOR!
NO ONE GETS IN THIS BUILDING UNLESS YOU KNOW THEM PERSONALLY!!


YOU HEARD THE CHIEF--!
WE'RE SEALING THIS PLACE UP TIGHT!
HOW DO WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT HE ISN'T ALREADY BEHIND US?
THE ONLY CERTAINTY IS THE WRATH OF THE LORD!!
WHU--
BA-DOOM!
BA-DOOM!
PONK!
PONK!


ON THE SECOND FLOOR...
SOMETHING'S UP ON THE CEILING--
WHAT IS THAT--?
RECEPTION
IT'S VENOM!!
TAKE HIM DOWN!!!
BLAM!
BLAM!
POW!
BLAM!
AWW, AND I THOUGHT I COULD DO THIS WITHOUT UNDUE BALLISTIC TRAUMA!
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
LET'S SEE-- ANN WEYING-- ROOM 714!
CHIEF REILLY--!! VENOM IS ON THE SCENE AND HE'S ON HIS WAY UP TO WEYING'S ROOM!


DON'T WORRY! I FIGURED OUT A WAY TO GET SOME LIGHT ON THE SITUATION!
I'VE GOT WASHINGTON AND KOWALSKI, MY TOP E.S.U. BOYS, COVERING THIS ROOM, AND I'VE GOT ENOUGH TOE TAGS AND BODY BAGS FOR BOTH SIN-EATER AND VENOM!!
NO! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! IF EDDIE IS HERE, HE'S HERE TO PROTECT ME!!!
WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO SET THIS UP, CAPTAIN REILLY? FLANAGAN IS RIGHT BEHIND ME WITH THE OTHER ONE--
SET IT UP TO COVER THE DOOR HERE, VASQUEZ--AFTER WE PILE SOME FURNITURE IN FRONT OF IT TO BLOCK ANYBODY COMING THROUGH!
FLANAGAN, GET YOUR FAT BUTT IN HERE AND SET UP THE OTHER LIGHT!
HEY, YOU'RE NOT FLANAGAN--


"I WILL DRAW MY SWORD, MY HAND SHALL DESTROY THEM."...
...EXODUS, 15:9.
BA-DOOM!
BA-DOOM!
GOOD LORD, KOWALSKI--!!
HE'S MOVING TOO FAST!
HOW DOES HE SEE IN THE #@!&% DARK!!
IT SAYS IN LEVITICUS 24:16--
APPP!
BRRRR
--"ONE WHO BLASPHEMES THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE PUT TO DEATH!"
AAAA


PLEASE, I NEVER DID ANYTHING TO YOU--
I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU--
I-- PLEASE--
AND HE SAID, "WOE ALSO TO YOU LAWYERS! FOR YOU LOAD PEOPLE WITH BURDENS HARD TO BEAR, AND YOU YOURSELVES DO NOT LIFT A FINGER TO EASE THEM." LUKE 11:46.
OH MY G-G--
"WOE TO YOU LAWYERS! FOR YOU HAVE TAKEN AWAY THE KEY OF KNOWLEDGE; YOU DID NOT ENTER YOURSELVES, AND YOU HINDERED THOSE WHO WERE ENTERING." LUKE 11:52
CLACK
KA-SHUNK!


HERE'S ONE FOR YOU--
"EXCLUSIVE! SIN-EATER REVEALED!" EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A.--
--VENOM!
OOOMPH!
THANK HEAVEN FOR BULLETPROOF VESTS--
--FREEZE, THE BOTH OF YOU, OR I'LL BLOW YOU AWAY!
--THAT WAS THE HEADLINE ON THE NEWSPAPER COLUMN I WROTE.
THE EXPOSÉ THAT TURNED OUT TO BE BASED ON THE LURID RAMBLINGS OF A COMPULSIVE CONFESSOR!!
BUT MAYBE I WASN'T WRONG AFTER ALL--!!
IS THAT YOU UNDER THE MASK AND NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES, EMIL GREGG??


BLAMM!
BLAMM!
BLAMM!
I WARNED YOU--
SPANG!
NO, YOU IDIOT!--
--I TOLD YOU HE CAME HERE TO PROTECT ME!!!
IF THAT IS YOU, GREGG--
--I'M GOING TO LEAVE JUST ENOUGH OF YOUR FACE TO MAKE A POSITIVE I.D.--
--AFTER I EAT YOUR BRAINS!!!


DON'T TRY IT, SINNER. YOU ARE STANDING ON THE BRINK OF ETERNITY!
IF I SHOULD RELEASE THIS DEAD MAN'S SWITCH FOR ANY REASON...
...WE SHALL ALL FACE OUR FINAL JUDGMENT!!
TO BE CONTINUED!


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EAT THIS!
LUZNIAR
KOBLISH


If the righteous are repaid on earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner! proverbs 11:31
IF MY THUMB SHOULD SLIP OFF THIS DEAD MAN'S SWITCH, TWENTY POUNDS OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES WILL SEND US ALL TO ETERNITY!
ANN WEYING IS AN INNOCENT!
YOU LET HER GO, SIN-EATER, OR--
YOUR EX-WIFE CHOSE TO BE ONE OF THE EVIL BROOD, VENOM--
--PHARISEES, SCRIBES AND LAW-MAKERS!
SHE CHOSE TO DEFEND THE EVIL ACTIONS OF THE OPPORTUNIST FORDHAM RHODES, AND THUS...

REDEEMABLE UPON REQUEST

...SHE HAS BEEN JUDGED AND FOUND WANTING!!

BA-BOOM!

NOOOOOO!

EEEEEEEE!!

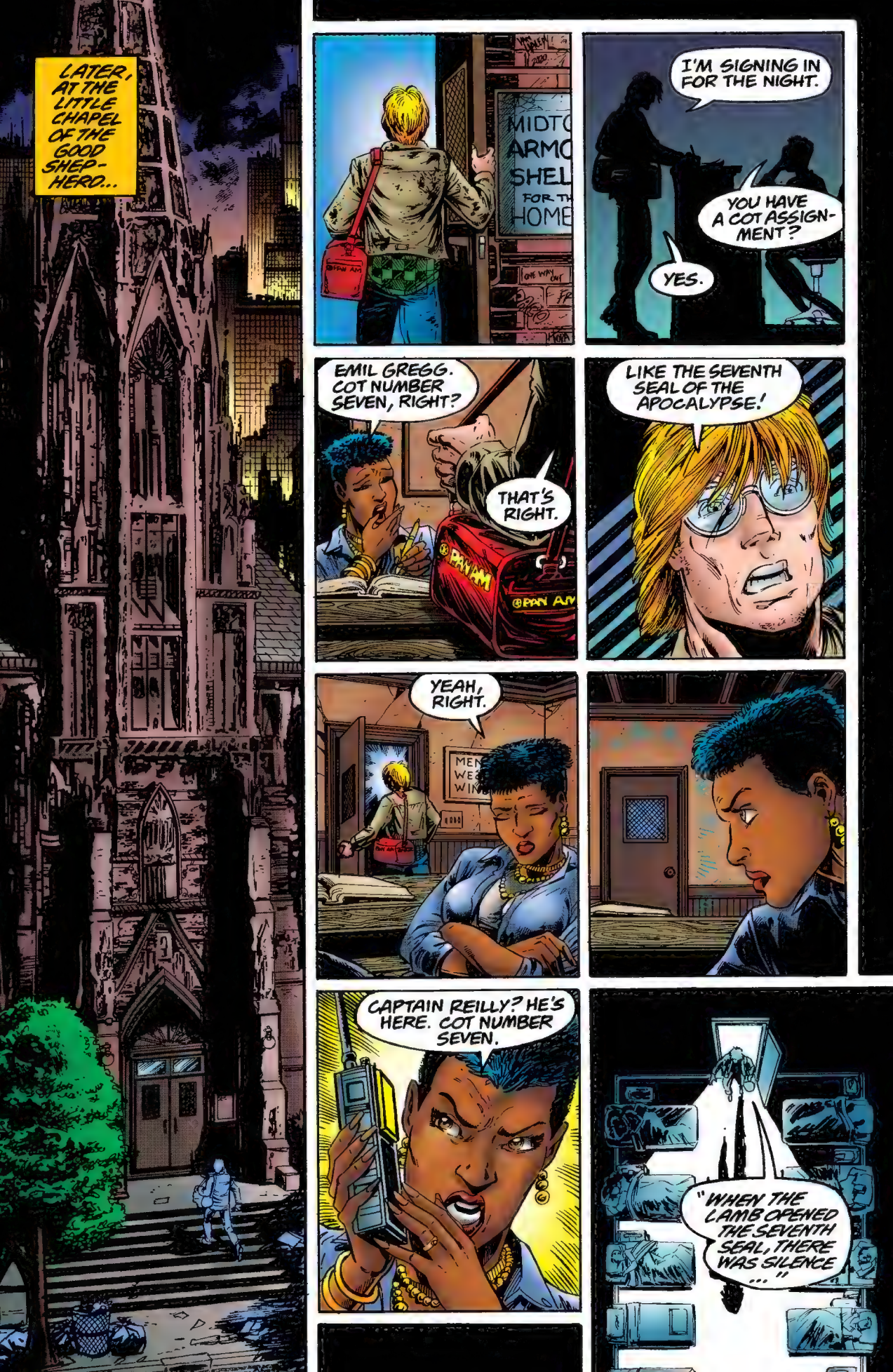
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FWOMP!
GO FOR IT, SIN-EATER!
YOU TALK BIG, BUT WE DON'T THINK YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO LIFT YOUR THUMB--
EVEN WHILE WE'RE PULLING YOUR SPINAL CORD OUT THROUGH YOUR NOSE!
GIVE IT UP, LAD!
I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY WANT TO MEET YOUR MAKER WITH THE SIN O' SUICIDE BLACKENIN' YER SOUL!
I AM BEYOND SIN, CHIEF REILLY!
BA-DOOM
SPANGG


CHIEF REILLY!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BLESS YOU FOR THINKIN' O'ME, MISS WEYING--
--ME BULLET-PROOF VEST HAS SAVED ME AGAIN!
BIC BIC
FOOMP!
HE'S GONE--!
THE SIN-EATER HAS GONE AND DEFENES-TRATED HIMSELF!
HE'S MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE!
PROBABLY HAD RAPPELING GEAR WITH HIM!
REILLY! ARE YOU IN THERE?
I'VE GOT THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL IN HERE, SEAMUS!
DON'T BE CHARGING IN WITH GUNS BLAZING UNLESS I GIVE THE WORD!
YOU'RE CALLING IT, CHIEF!

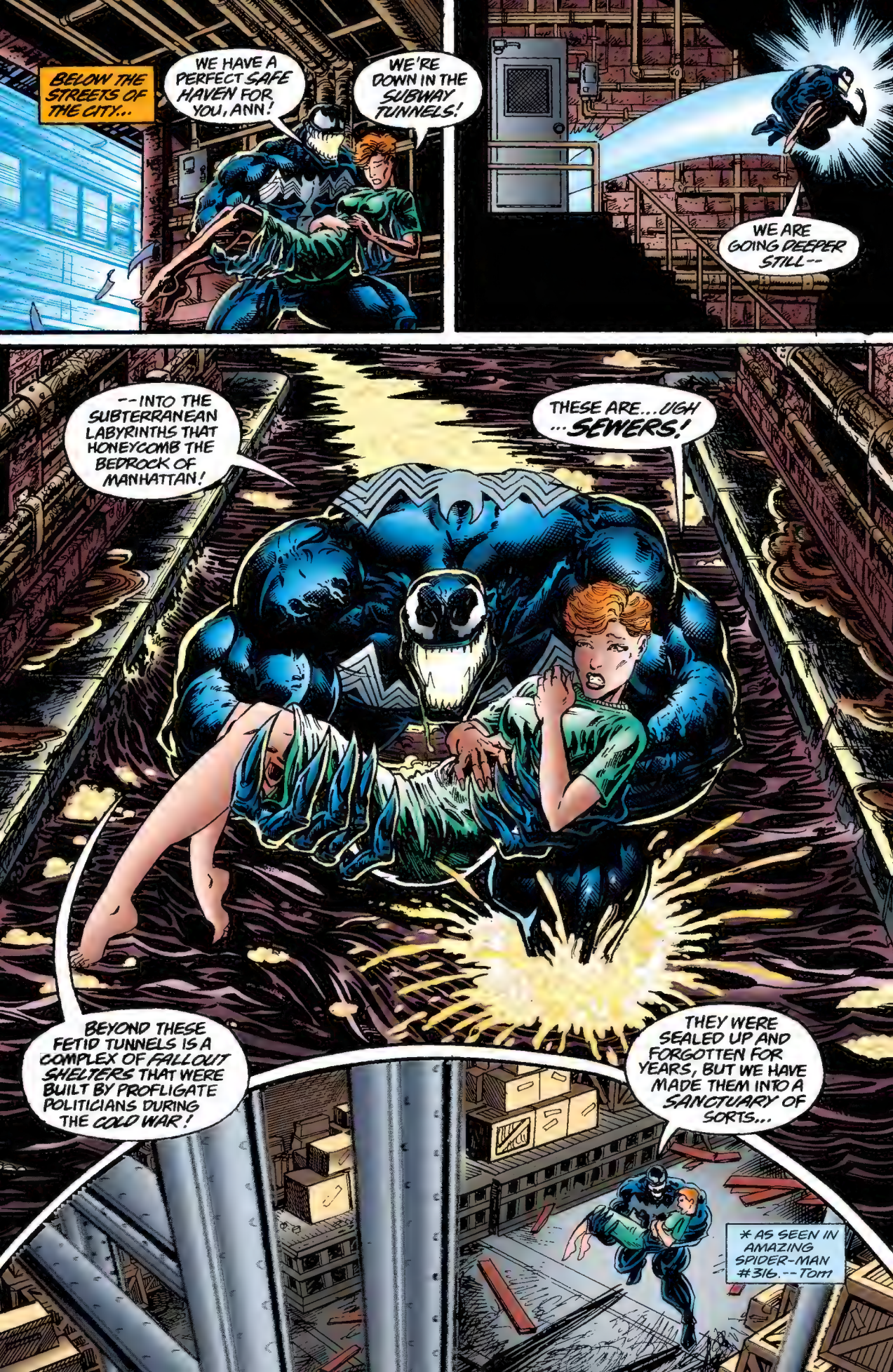

THOSE BOYS COME CHARGIN' IN, SOMEBODY 'S BOUND TO GET HURT, AND THERE 'S BEEN TOO MUCH O'THAT ALREADY.
AS BAD AN EGG AS YE ARE, YE PUT YOURSELF BETWEEN THAT MADMAN AND THE GIRL, AND THAT'S IN YER FAVOR.
WE HAD THE BEST WE HAD GUARDIN' HER, AND IT WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH--
--SO YOU JUST DO WHAT YE HAVE TO DO TO KEEP HER SAFE, AND WE'LL SORT OUT THE CONSEQUENCES LATER!
COME ON IN, SEAMUS!
POK
--YOU EXPECT TO FIND VENOM IN HERE?
EVERYBODY FREEZE--HUH?
SOMEBODY FETCH ME A SAWBONES--
WHAT ARE YE ALL GAPING AT--


WHERE CAN WE TAKE YOU, ANN?
YOUR WOUNDS-- YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING CONTINUAL TREATMENT!
YOUR APARTMENT IS NO GOOD BECAUSE THE SIN-EATER CAN TRACK YOU DOWN THERE--
-- AND THE COPS WILL BE ALL OVER IT, ANYWAY!
EDDIE--
HOW ARE WE GOING TO KEEP YOU SAFE WHILE WE TRACK DOWN THIS MANIAC?? HOW--
EDDIE--!
PLEASE-- YOUR FACE-- AT LEAST LET ME SEE EDDIE!
OH.
SORRY, ANN.
IS THIS BETTER?
MUCH.
THOUGHT OF A PLACE WHERE NOBODY CAN FIND US!


LATER, AT THE LITTLE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEP-HERD...
I'M SIGNING IN FOR THE NIGHT.
YOU HAVE A COT ASSIGN-MENT?
YES.
EMIL GREGG. COT NUMBER SEVEN, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
LIKE THE SEVENTH SEAL OF THE APOCALYPSE!
YEAH, RIGHT.
CAPTAIN REILLY? HE'S HERE. COT NUMBER SEVEN.
"WHEN THE LAMB OPENED THE SEVENTH SEAL, THERE WAS SILENCE ... "


THAT'S MORE THAN WE GET AROUND HERE! SHUT UP, GREGG!!
YOU KEEP A LID ON IT OR WE'LL STUFF YOUR HEAD DOWN THE JOHN AGAIN!
I'LL DO WORSE THAN THAT!
YO, GREGG! I SAW GOD LAST NIGHT JUST BEFORE I PASSED OUT IN THE DUMPSTER!
"AND THE LORD SENT YOU ON A MISSION, AND SAID--
"--'GO, UTTERLY DESTROY THE SINNERS...
"...AND FIGHT AGAINST THEM UNTIL THEY ARE CONSUMED!"
POLICE! FREEZE! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WHA--?
LIE FLAT ON THE BED ON YOUR STOMACH AND PUT YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR HEAD!


DON'T EVEN FLINCH, GREGG!
READ HIM THE MIRANDA!
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT...
WHAT'S IN THE BAG, GREGG?!
NOTHING! JUST TRACTS! BIBLE TRACTS!
TRACTS, HUH?
THIS MUST BE A CHAPTER OUTTA APOC-ALYPSE!
LET'S GO, COP-KILLER!
I SHALL BE DELIVERED, EVEN AS DANIEL IN HIS INNOCENCE WAS DELIVERED FROM THE MOUTHS OF THE LIONS!
"WHEN I WHET MY FLASHING SWORD, AND MY HAND TAKES HOLD ON JUDGMENT;
"I WILL TAKE VENGEANCE ON MY ADVERSARIES...
"...AND WILL REPAY THOSE WHO HATE ME." DEUTERONOMY 32:41


BELOW THE STREETS OF THE CITY...
WE HAVE A PERFECT SAFE HAVEN FOR YOU, ANN!
WE'RE DOWN IN THE SUBWAY TUNNELS!
WE ARE GOING DEEPER STILL--
--INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTHS THAT HONEYCOMB THE BEDROCK OF MANHATTAN!
THESE ARE...UGH ...SEWERS!
BEYOND THESE FETID TUNNELS IS A COMPLEX OF FALLOUT SHELTERS THAT WERE BUILT BY PROFLIGATE POLITICIANS DURING THE COLD WAR!
THEY WERE SEALED UP AND FORGOTTEN FOR YEARS, BUT WE HAVE MADE THEM INTO A SANCTUARY OF SORTS...
* AS SEEN IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #316.--Tom


AND YOUR WOUNDS ARE BLEEDING AGAIN!
OHHH! I'M HURTING!! THE PAIN KILLERS MUST BE WEARING OFF--
ALL THIS TRAVELING MUST HAVE STRETCHED THE SUTURES-- SHE MIGHT EVEN BE BLEEDING IN-TERNALLY!
WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO HELP HER!
YES?
WE COULD DO THAT?
IT WOULD BE A SHARING?
ANN... WE ARE GOING TO EXTEND THE SYMBIOTE AROUND YOU, TO HEAL YOU--
--THIS WILL INVOLVE YOUR BECOMING A PART OF US FOR A WHILE--
A PART OF THAT THING??
OH MY GOD--
--WHAT ARE YOU SAYING??
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE--
--I CAN DO, ANN.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY.


DON'T BE AFRAID, ANN.
THE OTHER IS A FRIEND!
IT'S HORRID!!
I SAW WHAT IT DID TO YOU--
IT CHANGED YOU! IT MADE YOU--
OH...
RELAX.
LET YOUR PAIN MELT AWAY.
OH, EDDIE... IT'S SO WARM AND SOOTHING...
...LIKE A NICE HOT BATH.
SHHHH...
...JUST LET YOURSELF DRIFT OFF TO SLEEP.


AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO WAIVE YOUR RIGHTS AND MAKE A STATEMENT, MR. GREGG?
I TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT I WAS THE SIN-EATER, BUT DID YOU BELIEVE ME???
IT WAS THE VOICES, I TELL YOU -- THE VOICES THAT CAME THROUGH THE WALL!
THEY WERE ANGELS OF THE LORD, WHISPERING INSTRUCTIONS TO ME!! I WAS SIMPLY DOING THE LORD'S WORK!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DETECTIVE STEEN?
I DON'T LIKE IT, CHIEF.
GREGG SHOULD HAVE COUNSEL PRESENT. WE HAVE THE GUN AND THE EXPLOSIVES AND THE COSTUME.
WHEN FINGERPRINTS AND FORENSICS CONFIRM THE CONNECTION, WE HAVE A SOLID CASE WITHOUT A STATEMENT!
RIGHT. LET'S GET HIM OUT OF HERE AND INTO ISOLATION...


YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE HERE, MRS. KOWALSKI. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR SON HERE--
HE WORKED HERE! YOU WERE HIS FRIENDS! CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING??
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA DRIVE STAN'S MOM HOME AND STAY WITH HER--
I'LL DO IT. WE GOTTA TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN, RIGHT?
HER SON WAS KILLED BY GREGG!
GET HER OUT OF HERE!!
IS THAT HIM??
IS THAT THE BUM??
HOLDING
BOOKING
A-D CELL
BLAMM!!


SHE'S SLIPPING!
HER PULSE IS FADING!
HER LIPS ARE TURNING BLUE--
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT TO DO!
WE MUST SEPARATE!
YOU, MY OTHER, MUST MELD WITH ANN COMPLETELY!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HER!
YES, I UNDERSTAND THE TORMENT OF SUNDERING OUR SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP--
--BUT YOU CAN'T REFUSE!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE, IF YOU DON'T DO THIS...
...I'LL LEAVE YOU FOREVER!
UNDERSTOOD?
GO AHEAD AND DO IT.

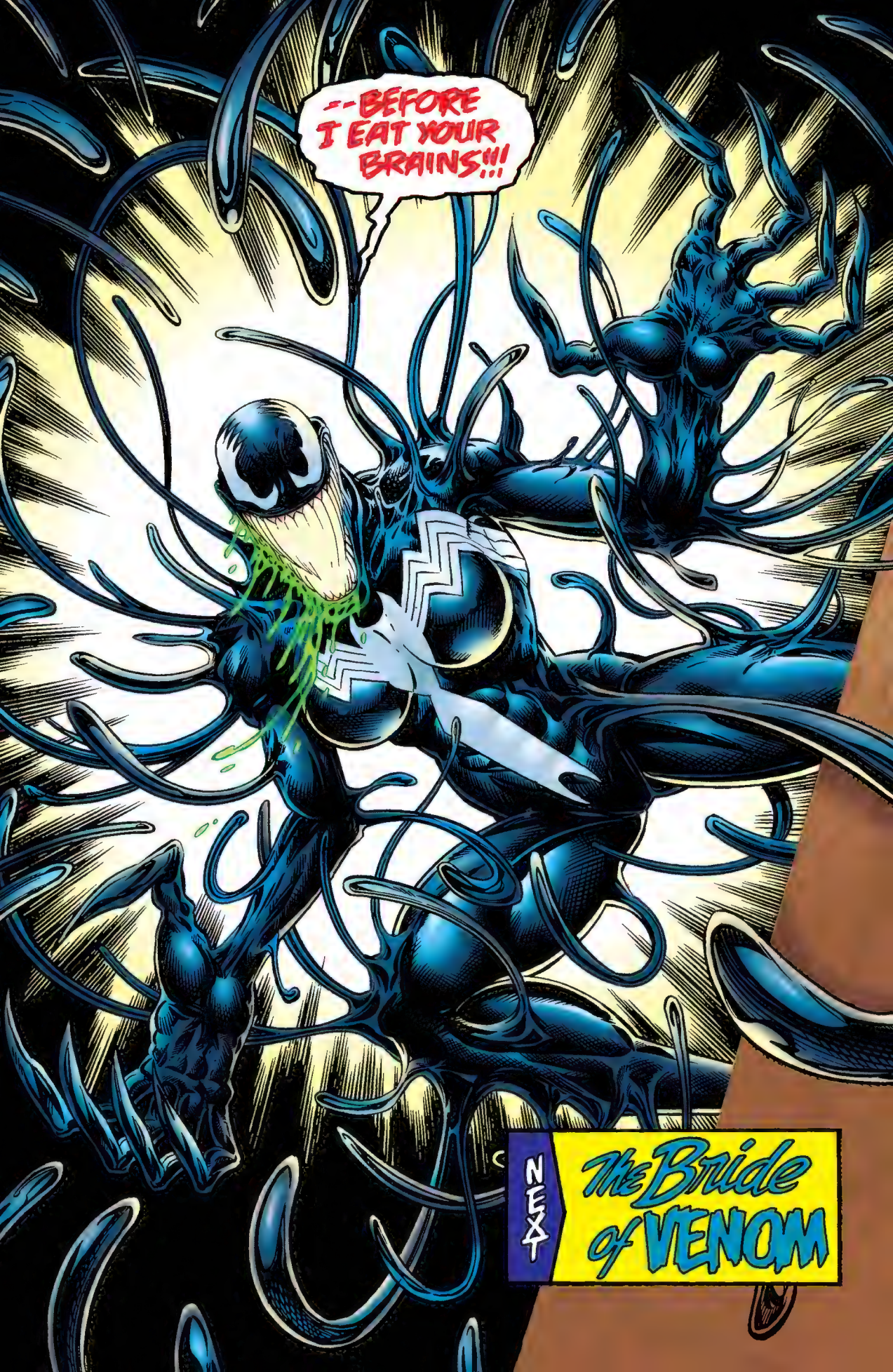

WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU ALL RIGHT AGAIN, ANN...
...WE PROMISE.
I PROMISE.

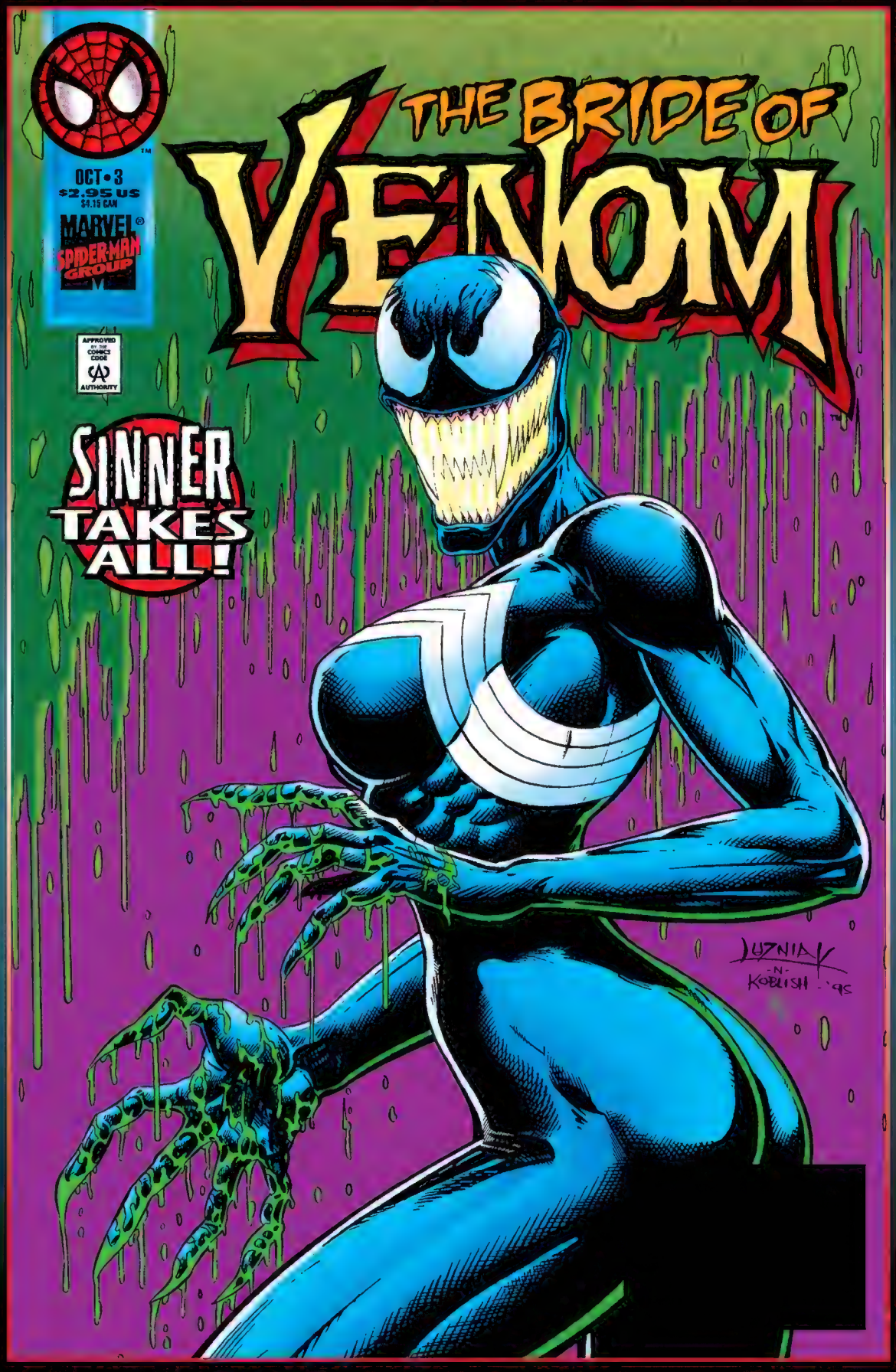

AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
BAD NEWS FROM THE LAB!
THE PARAFIN TEST ON GREGG'S HANDS CAME BACK NEGATIVE.
THE GUY HASN'T FIRED A GUN IN THE LAST WEEK, LET ALONE IN THE LAST FEW HOURS!
HE WAS WEARING GLOVES!
THE SHOTGUN AND BAG ARE COVERED WITH FINGERPRINTS-- ONLY NONE OF THEM ARE EMIL GREGG'S!
HOLY SMOKE! WE GOT THE WRONG GUY?
THEN THE REAL SIN-EATER IS STILL OUT THERE LOOSE?
IT GETS WORSE! WE GOT A MATCH ON THE PRINTS FROM THE GUN...
...THEY BELONG TO A MICHAEL ENGELSCHWERT. THIS GUY WAS AN AIRBORNE RANGER IN THE GULF WAR--


"--EXPERT MARKSMAN, HAND-TO-HAND, EXPLOSIVES TRAINING, THE WORKS!!"
...Amazing Grace how sweet the sound...
HEY, SHADDUP!
...That saved a wretch like me!
WE GOT RID OF GREGG, NOW WE GOT ENGLE-SQUIRT ACTIN' UP?
YO! CHILL OUT ON MICKEY E.!
HE BAD OR SOMETHIN'?
HE GOT THEM LOOSE CARNATIONS, MAN...
...But now am found...
ENGELSCWHERT MICHAEL G.
...FROM BEIN' NEXT TO GREGG ALL THAT TIME, SOAKIN' UP THEM WEIRDNESS RAYS COMIN' OUT HIS WHACK HEAD--
...was BLIND, but now, I SEE!!!
--AN' MICKEY E. AIN'T PACKIN' NO BIBLE, MAN-- THAT BOY IS STRAPPIN'!


CLICK!
EH?
THE DOOR--
--I FORGOT TO LOCK IT!
BAD NEWS, SINCE THERE'S NOBODY PROWLING AROUND DOWN HERE...
...BUT PREDATORS.!!
WELL LOOKY HERE, BIG BROWN--! WE DONE STUMBLED ON A SECRET HIDEAWAY!
WATCHOO HIDIN' HERE, FABIO? YOU GOT ANY MONEY? YOU GOT ANY DRUGS?
WHAT I HAVE IS UTTER CONTEMPT...


...FOR THE BOTTOM FEEDERS OF SOCIETY'S DREGS!
WHOOMP
YOU HYENAS--
PA-CHAK!
--NIPPING AT THE HEELS OF THE HELPLESS...
CRACK
...AND THE INNOCENT!!
PA-CHOOM
KA-CHANG!
YOU GOT A BIG MOUTH, FABIO!
NOW I'M GONNA FLATTEN YER HEAD OUT TO FIT IT--
DROP THE BAT, PUS-FACE--
SAY WHA--?


--BEFORE I EAT YOUR BRAINS!!!
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SINNER TAKES ALL!
LUZNIAK
-N-
KOBLISH
'95


DEEP BENEATH THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY IN THE SECRET LAIR OF EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A. VENOM...
YOU LET HIM GO--
--OR I'LL EAT YOUR BRAINS!!
ANN?
HUH? WUZZAT, BIG BROWN?
I DUNNO, JUNIOR--

EVE OF DESTRUCTION!

--BUT IT SURE AS HECK IS FEMALE!!

HOO-HA!!

WE CAN PUT A SACK OVER HER UGLY HEAD AFTER WE STOMP HER INTO SUBMISSION!

IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU'RE THIEVING LOW-LIFE TROGLODYTES--

--BUT YOU'RE SEXIST PERVO PIGS TO BOOT?

WAIT! YOU DON'T KNOW--

LARRY HAMA SCRIPT

GREG LUZNIAK BREAKDOWNS

JIMMY PALMIOTTI & KEN BRANCH FINISHES

TOM SMITH COLORING

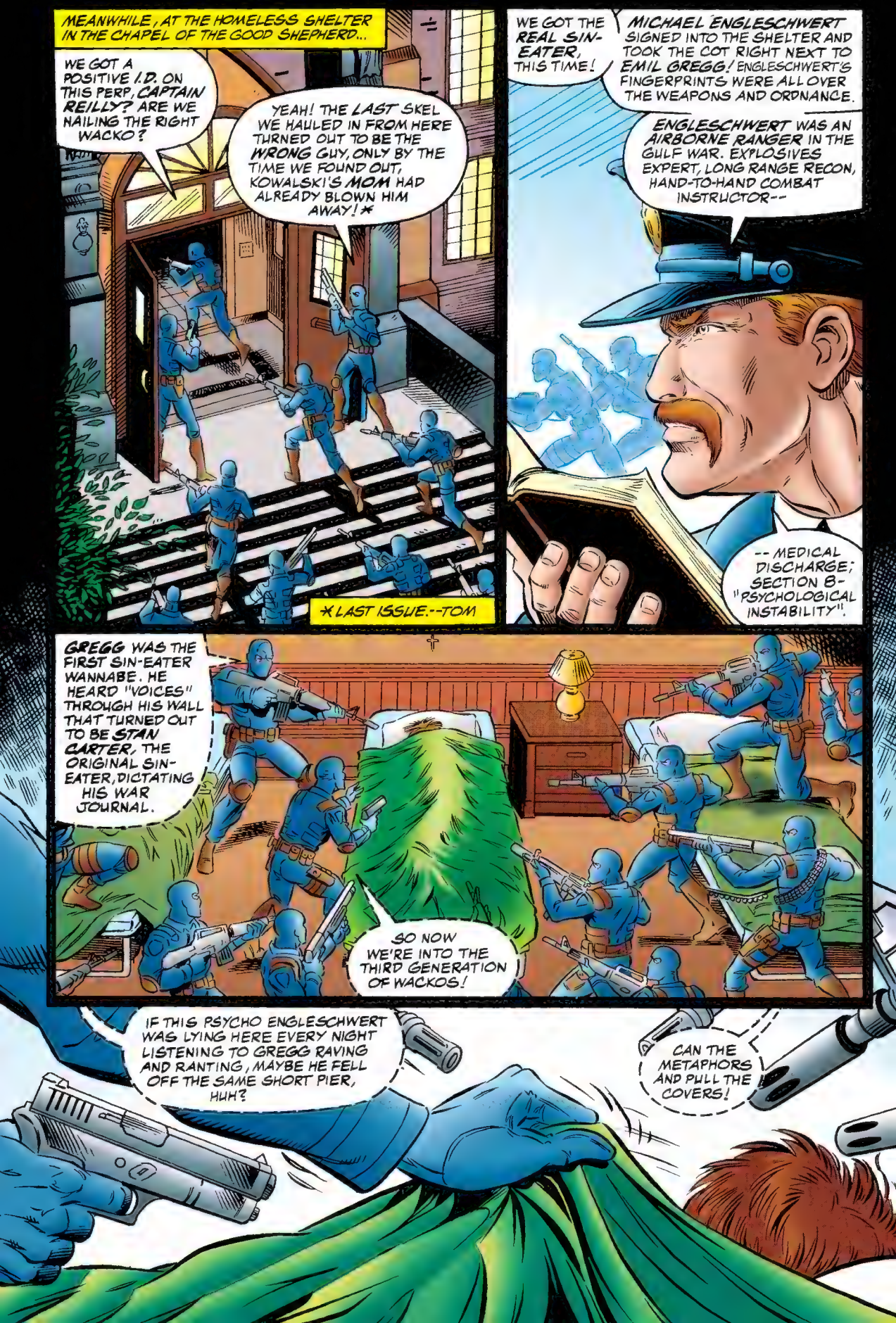
KEN LOPEZ LETTERING

TOM BREVOORT EDITOR

BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF


GUH!
SO, YOU WANT CARESSES?
YOU WANT THE FEEL OF WOMANLY FINGERS ON YOUR HAIRY, SCABBY THROATS?
GACK!
I'LL BET YOU DO!
EEEEYAAA--
THWAMM
WHOMP
I'M GOING TO RIP YOUR OWN GUTS OUT AND STUFF THEM DOWN YOUR OWN THROATS!!


ANN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL-- YOU'RE LETTING THE OTHER TAKE OVER--
WE MELDED YOU WITH THE OTHER SO THAT WE COULD HEAL YOUR WOUNDS-- NOT SO YOU COULD--
GET OFF ME, EDDIE--!
--A GIRL'S GOTTA DO WHAT A GIRL'S GOTTA DO!
THWACK!
ARRRRRGH!
SCHREKK!
POP!
CRASH!
SNIKT!
GUSH!
ANN! GOOD LORD-- CHOKE!


MEANWHILE, AT THE HOMELESS SHELTER IN THE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD...
WE GOT A POSITIVE I.D. ON THIS PERP, CAPTAIN REILLY? ARE WE NAILING THE RIGHT WACKO?
YEAH! THE LAST SKEL WE HAULED IN FROM HERE TURNED OUT TO BE THE WRONG GUY, ONLY BY THE TIME WE FOUND OUT, KOWALSKI'S MOM HAD ALREADY BLOWN HIM AWAY! *
* LAST ISSUE.--TOM
WE GOT THE REAL SIN-EATER, THIS TIME!
MICHAEL ENGLESCHWERT SIGNED INTO THE SHELTER AND TOOK THE COT RIGHT NEXT TO EMIL GREGG! ENGLESCHWERT'S FINGERPRINTS WERE ALL OVER THE WEAPONS AND ORDNANCE.
ENGLESCHWERT WAS AN AIRBORNE RANGER IN THE GULF WAR. EXPLOSIVES EXPERT, LONG RANGE RECON, HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT INSTRUCTOR--
-- MEDICAL DISCHARGE; SECTION 8- "PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTABILITY".
GREGG WAS THE FIRST SIN-EATER WANNABE. HE HEARD "VOICES" THROUGH HIS WALL THAT TURNED OUT TO BE STAN CARTER, THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER, DICTATING HIS WAR JOURNAL.
SO NOW WE'RE INTO THE THIRD GENERATION OF WACKOS!
IF THIS PSYCHO ENGLESCHWERT WAS LYING HERE EVERY NIGHT LISTENING TO GREGG RAVING AND RANTING, MAYBE HE FELL OFF THE SAME SHORT PIER, HUH?
CAN THE METAPHORS AND PULL THE COVERS!


OH, MAN-- MAJOR BUMMER!
BIBLE
YOU SNAKES, YOU BROOD OF VIPERS! HOW CAN YOU ESCAPE BEING SENTENCED TO HELL?
MATTHEW 23:33
BACK OUT! EVACUATE!!
BA-THOOOOM!

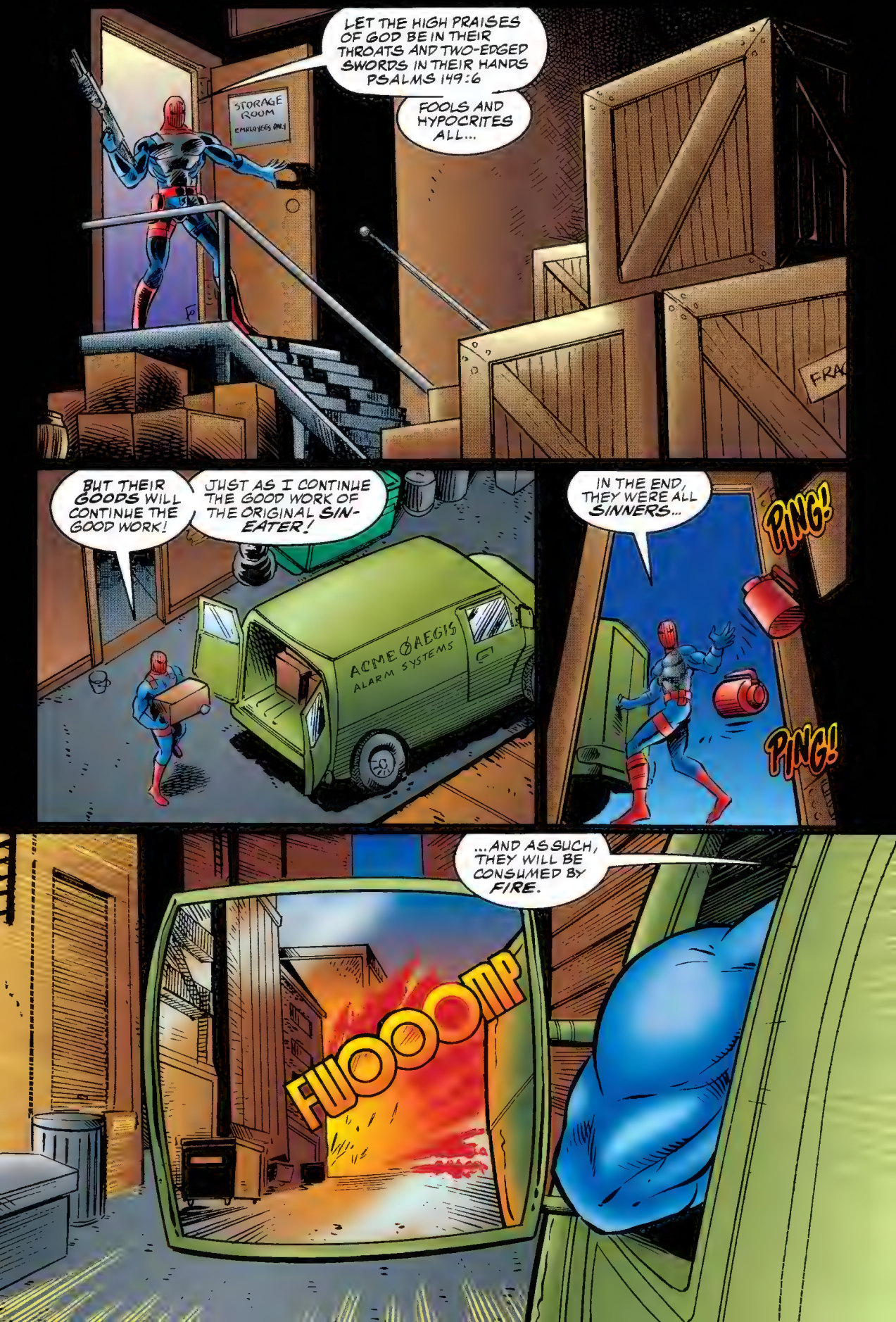

IN VENOM'S LAIR...
ANN! STOP IT!!
ANN, THE OTHER HAS GOT TO UNDERSTAND--
--IF THE OTHER DOESN'T LEAVE YOU IMMEDIATELY AND RETURN TO ME, I AM WALKING AWAY FROM IT FOREVER!!
OOOOH!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT...
I--I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE BEFORE, BUT NOW I KNOW!
THE OTHER HAS ITS OWN WILL! IT'S A CONSTANT STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL, AND--AND IT IS SO CONVINCING!
IT'S LIKE BEING SEDUCED BY SOMETHING DARK AND EVIL!!
BUT WE TRIED TO HELP YOU!
THE OTHER HEALED YOUR WOUNDS!

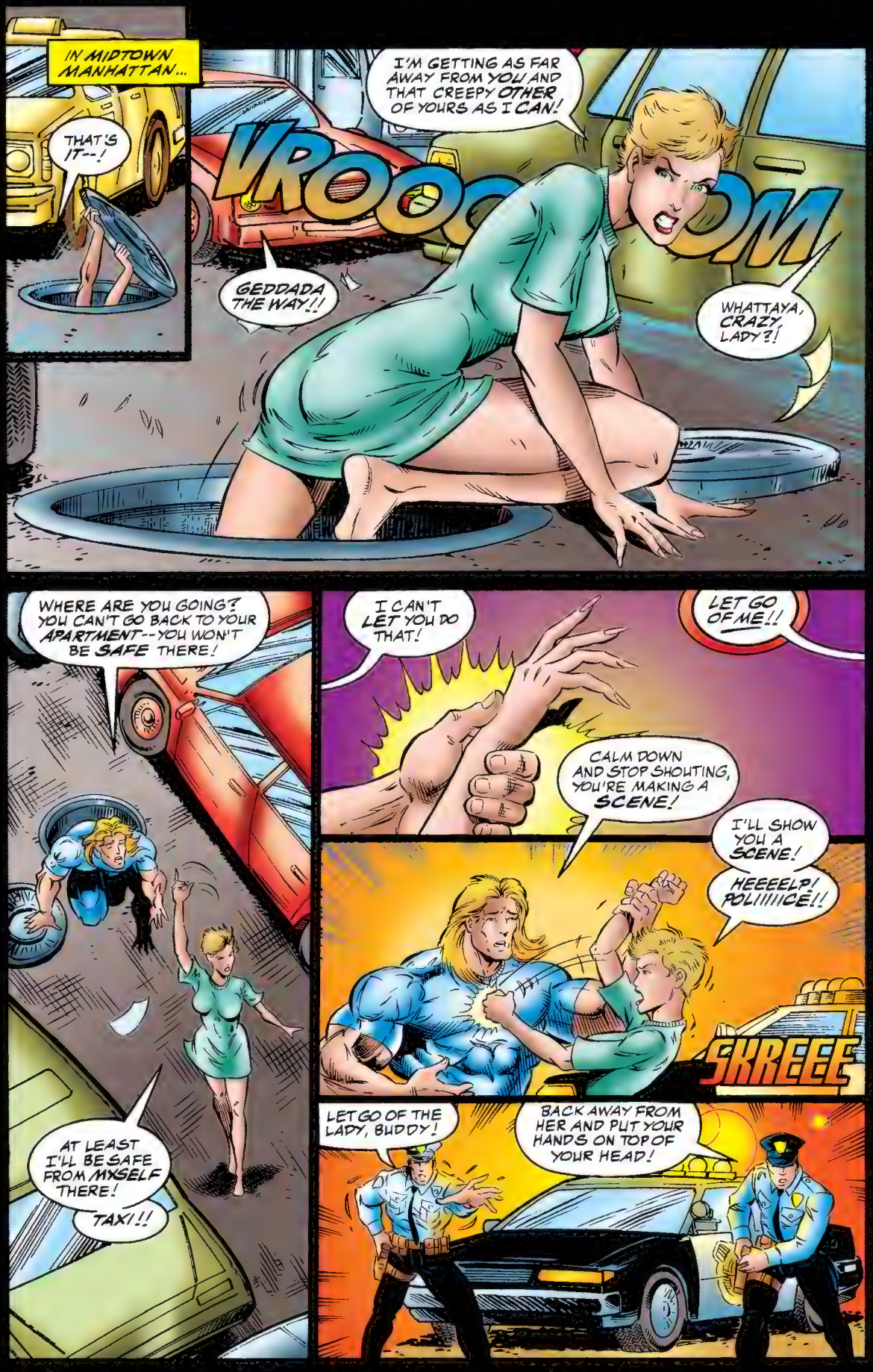

BUT IT WAS LIKE BEING VIOLATED! IT WAS--
GOOD LORD!!!
I DID THAT!! I DID THAT!! THAT THING MADE ME DO THAT!!
IT CAN'T MAKE YOU DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO DO--
DON'T SAY THAT!!
STAY AWAY FROM ME!!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME??
I HATE YOU FOREVER!!


MEANWHILE, IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
HI. I'M ANN WEYING'S SISTER FROM CHICAGO AND I JUST GOT INTO TOWN TO SEE HER...
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO DROP OFF MY BAG HERE AT HER APARTMENT BEFORE I WENT OVER TO THE HOSPITAL TO SEE HER?
UH, SURE, MA'AM. I CAN LOCK IT IN THE STORAGE ROOM UNTIL YOU GET BACK--
I SURE AM SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SISTER--
OOOOH--;SOB SOB;
I'M SORRY-- JUST THINKING ABOUT MY POOR LITTLE SISTER GETTING SHOT BY THAT HORRIBLE SIN-EATER JUST MAKES ME LOSE IT!*
*IN ISSUE #1.--TOM
OH, GOODNESS! LOOK AT ME! HOW CAN I SHOW UP AT THE HOSPITAL LOOKING LIKE THIS?
I CAN GET THE EMERGENCY KEY FROM THE SUPER AND YOU CAN GO UP TO YOUR SISTER'S APARTMENT AND FRESHEN UP!
YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR BAG THERE, TOO!
OH, THAT WOULD BE SO CONVENIENT!


IN STATEN ISLAND...
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
SORRY, WE'RE CLOSED
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
NOK! NOK!
WHAT'S THE PASSWORD?
JACK-BOOTED THUGS.
COME ON IN, BROTHER--
--MICHAEL! GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT!! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME, THE MEETING'S ABOUT TO START!
THANKS FOR THE INVITE, FORREST--
CITIZENS MILITIA
HEY, EVERYBODY! LISTEN UP!
I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO MEET A REAL HERO OF THE GULF WAR! MIKE HERE WAS IN THE SAME OUTFIT WITH MY SON!
HE WAS A RANGER AND HE WENT ON SOME HAIRY SECRET MISSIONS BEHIND THE LINES-- YOU KNOW, BLACK WORK! ULTRA! ULTRA!
LET'S GIVE HIM A REAL WARM WELCOME AND LET HIM KNOW THAT THE FOLKS AT HOME ARE READY TO KEEP UP THE GOOD FIGHT!
THANK YOU! I THOUGHT I'D BRING BY A FEW SOUVENIRS FOR "SHOW AND TELL"...
THE BRITISH SAS CALL THESE BALACLAVAS. WE JUST LIKE TO CALL THEM SKI MASKS.
GOTTA STAY COVERT, YOU KNOW...
UNTIL IT'S TIME TO REVEAL YOURSELF TO THE ENEMY!
WHA? THIS GUY IS THE SIN-EATER?!

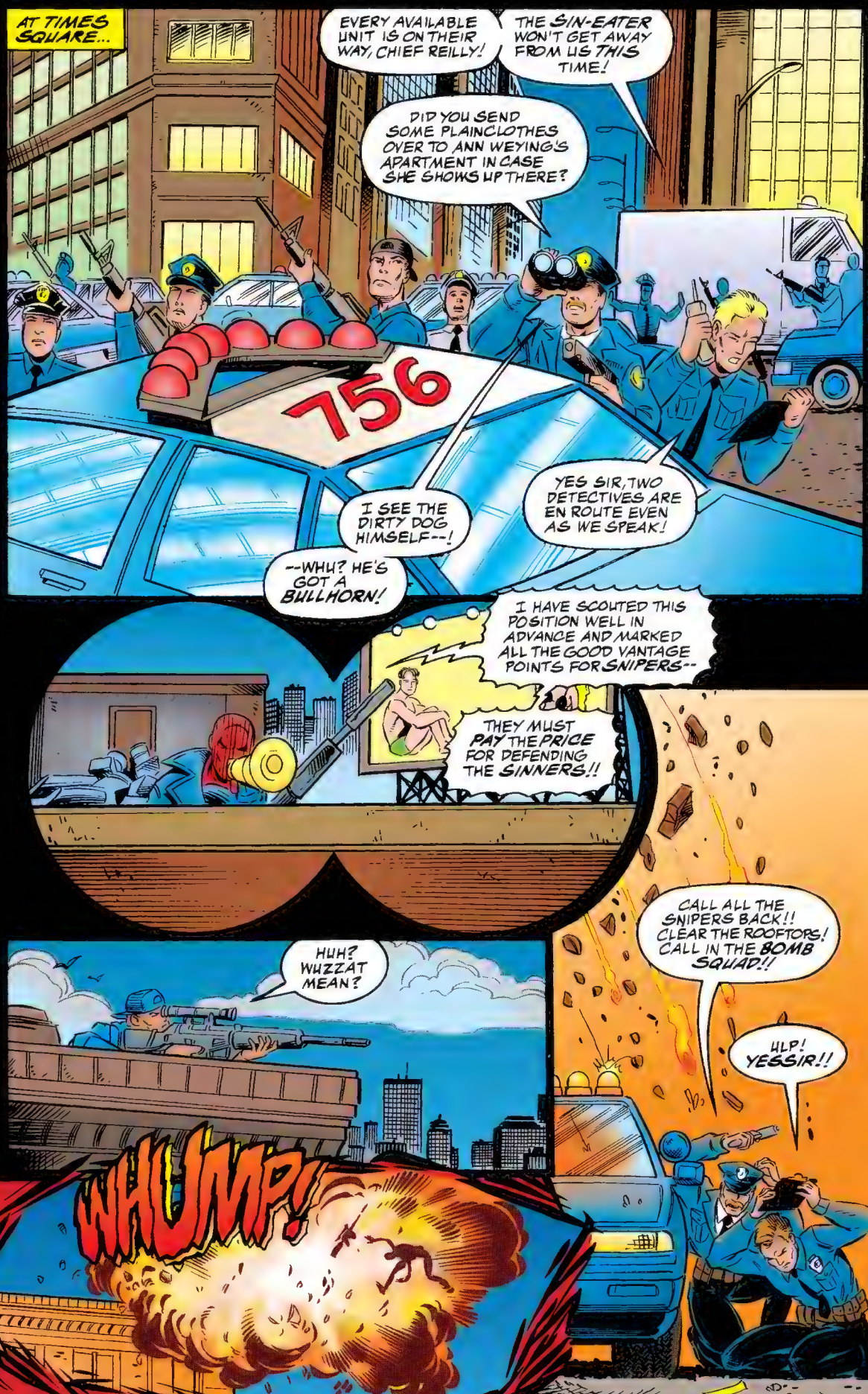

YOU SHALL GIVE CHASE TO YOUR ENEMIES, AND THEY SHALL FALL BEFORE YOU BY THE SWORD. LEVITICUS. 26:7
BLAMM!
BLAMM! BLAMM!
LET SINNERS BE CONSUMED FROM THE EARTH, AND LET THE WICKED BE NO MORE. PSALMS. 104:35
BLAMM!
BRAPP!
I GIVE UP! I'M UNARMED! I--
BLAM!
YOU ARE OBSTRUCTING THE LORD'S WORK!


LET THE HIGH PRAISES OF GOD BE IN THEIR THROATS AND TWO-EDGED SWORDS IN THEIR HANDS PSALMS 149:6
FOOLS AND HYPOCRITES ALL...
STORAGE ROOM
EMPLOYEES ONLY
BUT THEIR GOODS WILL CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK!
JUST AS I CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK OF THE ORIGINAL SIN-EATER!
ACME AEGIS ALARM SYSTEMS
IN THE END, THEY WERE ALL SINNERS...
PING!
PING!
...AND AS SUCH, THEY WILL BE CONSUMED BY FIRE.
FWOOOMP


IN MIDTOWN MANHATTAN...
THAT'S IT--!
I'M GETTING AS FAR AWAY FROM YOU AND THAT CREEPY OTHER OF YOURS AS I CAN!
VROOOOOOOM
GEDDADA THE WAY!!
WHATTAYA, CRAZY, LADY?!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU CAN'T GO BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT--YOU WON'T BE SAFE THERE!
AT LEAST I'LL BE SAFE FROM MYSELF THERE!
TAXI!!
I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!
LET GO OF ME!!
CALM DOWN AND STOP SHOUTING, YOU'RE MAKING A SCENE!
I'LL SHOW YOU A SCENE!
HEEEEELP! POLIIIIICE!!
SKREEE
LET GO OF THE LADY, BUDDY!
BACK AWAY FROM HER AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD!


THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK! SHE'S MY WIFE!
I AM NOT!!
HE'S MORPHING!!
GOOD GRIEF! IT'S VENOM!!!
WELL, WE'RE SURE NOT THE TOOTH FAIRY!!
THIS IS A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING, OFFICERS--
--WE'RE REALLY ON THE SAME SIDE!!
WHERE TO, LADY?
JUST GET OUT OF HERE FAST! HEAD OVER TO THE EAST SIDE!
COME BACK HERE, ANN!
OFF TAXI DUTY


YOU HAD YOUR WARNING, VENOM!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
I HAVE NO WISH TO HARM ANY INNOCENTS--
--BUT CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT YOU TWO ARE ON THE TAKE!
ALL UNITS! THE SIN-EATER HAS BEEN CORNERED ON A ROOFTOP IN TIMES SQUARE!!
HE IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS AND--
TIMES SQUARE?
THAT AREA WILL BE TEEMING WITH INNOCENT COMMUTERS AT THIS TIME OF DAY!!
208


AT TIMES SQUARE...
EVERY AVAILABLE UNIT IS ON THEIR WAY, CHIEF REILLY!
THE SIN-EATER WON'T GET AWAY FROM US THIS TIME!
DID YOU SEND SOME PLAINCLOTHES OVER TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT IN CASE SHE SHOWS UP THERE?
756
I SEE THE DIRTY DOG HIMSELF--!
YES SIR, TWO DETECTIVES ARE EN ROUTE EVEN AS WE SPEAK!
--WHU? HE'S GOT A BULLHORN!
I HAVE SCOUTED THIS POSITION WELL IN ADVANCE AND MARKED ALL THE GOOD VANTAGE POINTS FOR SNIPERS--
THEY MUST PAY THE PRICE FOR DEFENDING THE SINNERS!!
HUH? WUZZAT MEAN?
WHUMP!
CALL ALL THE SNIPERS BACK!! CLEAR THE ROOFTOPS! CALL IN THE BOMB SQUAD!!
HLP! YESSIR!!


ON THE EAST SIDE...
MISS WEYING! YOUR SIS--
TAXI
POLICE OFFICERS, MISS WEYING!
CHIEF REILLY ASKED US TO GET YOU TO A SAFE HOUSE AND KEEP YOU THERE!
WAIT A MINUTE! I NEED A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, MY MAKE-UP AND A TON OF OTHER STUFF--!
OKAY. YOU CAN GO UP TO YOUR APARTMENT FOR FIVE MINUTES...
...BUT WE'RE GOING WITH YOU!
I REALLY SHOULD TELL HER THAT--
IT CAN WAIT!
ALL CLEAR!
AREN'T YOU GUYS OVERDOING THIS A BIT?
CAN'T EVER BE TOO CAREFUL, MA'AM.
I SUPPOSE NOT--


WH-WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU--?
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS PERSON, MISS WEYING--?
I AM WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL A CONCERNED MOTHER...
...AND THIS WOMAN HAS NEVER SEEN ME BEFORE IN HER LIFE!
EEEEE!
PHUD! PHUD!
NOW THAT THE PIGS ARE WHACKED, YOU AND I CAN SIT DOWN AND RELAX A BIT...
...WHILE WE WAIT FOR YOUR EX-HUSBAND EDDIE BROCK, A.K.A. VENOM, TO SHOW UP!
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH EDDIE?
WE HAVE A LITTLE SETTLING UP TO DO...
...FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY DAUGHTER, KIRSTIN!*
*IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED.

AT TIMES SQUARE...

JOKKEY

THERE HE IS--

--MR. HOLIER THAN THE WHOLE PLANET HIMSELF!

HE THINKS HE'S SAFE, ALL BARRICADED ON THAT ROOF...

HE THINKS NO ONE CAN GET TO HIM--

WHAT WAS THAT, ONE OF THOSE SUPER HEROES?

WHICH ONE WAS IT?

I CAN'T TELL-- HE'S A BLUR-- AND ANYWAY, THERE ARE SO MANY OF THEM, I CAN'T KEEP TRACK--

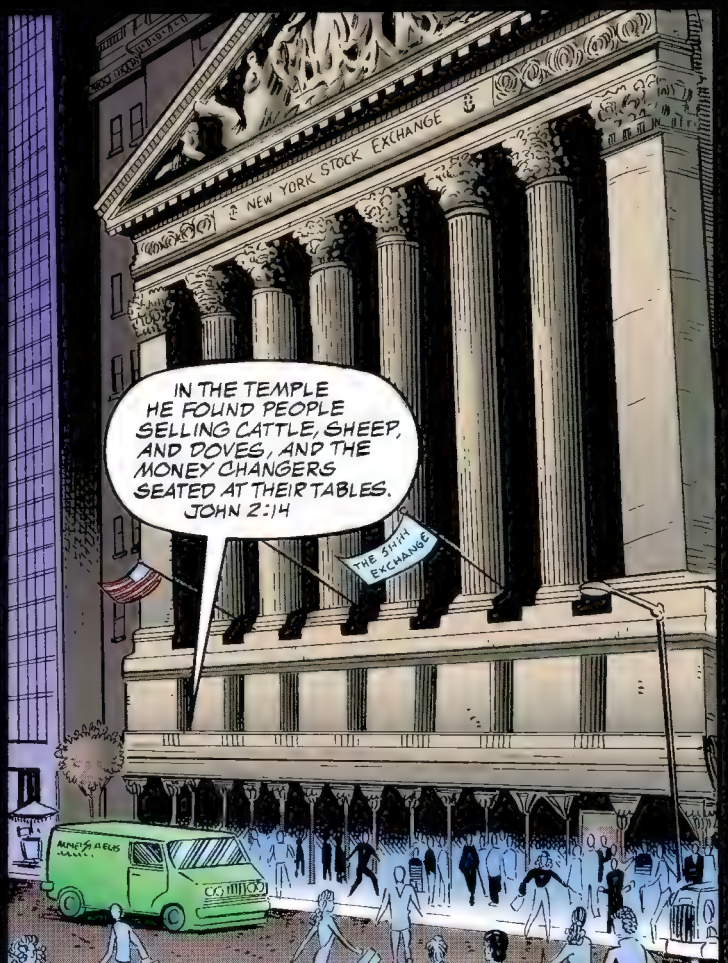
HEADS UP, SIN-EATER--

--TIME TO GET YOUR BRAIN EATEN!!

KA-CHOMMP

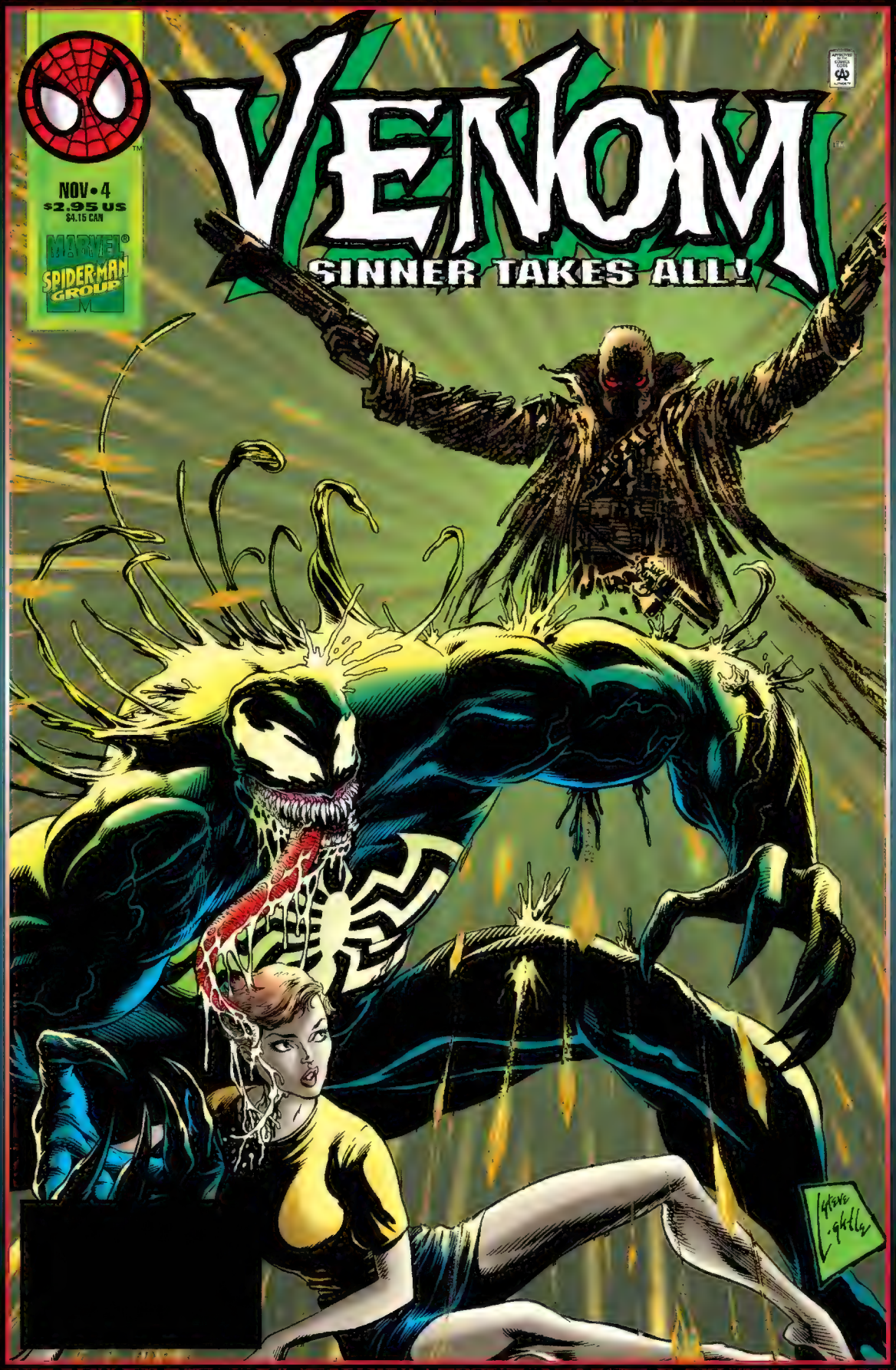
THOOM!





NEXT ISSUE: THE NO-HOLDS-BARRED **SHOWDOWN** BETWEEN **VENOM** AND **SIN-EATER!!**

IF YOU **MISS** IT, YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELF TO BLAME!


VENOM
SINNER TAKES ALL!
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VENOM

...SO SHALL YE REAP!

...AND AS YOU KNOW, *PRIDE* IS ONE OF THE *SEVEN DEADLY SINS!*

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD STOP ME FROM BRINGING DOWN THIS *TEMPLE OF MAMMON?*

BA-DOOOM!

WHOOF!

TALK ABOUT *PRIDE--!*

YOU'RE REGISTERING PRETTY HIGH ON THE *HUBRIS-METER* YOURSELF, *SIN-EATER--!*

CALLING IN A *STATEMENT OF INTENT* TO A *TV STATION* AFTER SETTING UP A *DIVERSION* IN TIMES SQUARE SMACKS OF *EGREGIOUS SELF-CONFIDENCE...!*

THWAPP!


...EXCUSE US WHILE WE EXTRUDE YOUR DOUBLE O BUCKSHOT!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
BINK!
YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PUSHING OUR IRE OVER ACCEPTABLE LIMITS--
--NOW, AFTER WE EAT YOUR BRAIN...
...WE'RE GOING TO SUCK OUT YOUR WHOLE SPINAL CORD!!
I MADE THE CALL BECAUSE I REQUIRE WITNESSES TO THE PUNISHMENT I METE OUT FOR THE LORD!
SHUNK!
YOU, I SLAY BECAUSE YOU ARE A PAWN OF SATAN!
FOOOSH!
THIS IS CALLED A L.A.W.* ROCKET, VENOM--!
*LIGHT ANTI-TANK WEAPON.


PA-THOOOOM!
--AND IT PACKS A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF KINETIC ENERGY!
OH, I AM QUITE AWARE OF THE ABILITY OF YOUR INSIDIOUS OTHER TO ABSORB AND DIFFUSE THE BLAST...
...THAT'S WHY I'M INSURING YOUR DEMISE WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF GRENADES!
PING!
PING!
PING!
SHRAPNEL IS NO BETTER THAN BULLETS AGAINST US!
PING!
PING!
PING!
I MADE SURE TO INCLUDE THERMIT AND WILLY PETE--
--OH, THAT'S WHITE PHOSPHOROUS TO YOU NON-MILITARY TYPES!
THE STUFF BURNS FEROCIOUSLY--LIKE UNTO THE VERY FIRES OF ETERNAL DAMNATION!


BA-WHOOMPH!
WAS THAT IT? THAT WAS THE SO-CALLED "MASSIVE CHARGE" THAT THE SIN-EATER PLANTED IN THERE?
NO WAY! THOSE WERE GRENADES! ANTI-PERSONNEL ORDNANCE, NOT THE HEAVY STUFF!
THIS IS TRISH TILBY ON THE SCENE DOWNTOWN AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE, WHERE A MAJOR STORY IS UNFOLDING!
CHIEF REILLY HERE IS IN CHARGE OF A CRACK POLICE TEAM ENGAGED IN A DEADLY SHOWDOWN WITH THE INFAMOUS SIN-EATER!
WAS THAT EXPLOSION SOME SORT OF PRELIMINARY CHARGE?
NO, MISS TILBY-- WE BELIEVE THAT VENOM IS INSIDE TRADING SHOTS WITH THE SIN-EATER...
IN ANN WEYING'S MIDTOWN APARTMENT...
...HE BEAT US DOWN HERE BECAUSE YOUR TV STATION BROADCAST THE SIN-EATER'S STATEMENT INSTEAD OF KEEPING QUIET AND PASSING IT ALONG TO THE AUTHORITIES!
TSK! TSK! THE INIQUITIES OF THE FOURTH ESTATE!
REPORTERS ARE AS SLIMY AS LAWYERS, EH, ANNIE?
NOT AS SLIMY AS CONTRACT KILLERS!
NOBODY TAKES OUT A CONTRACT ON A NICE GUY, HONEY!


IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
FIRE!!
THE NOISE FROM THE EXPLOSIONS WAS DEBILITATING ENOUGH, BUT THESE FLAMES CAN DO US SOME REAL DAMAGE!
MAYBE NOT AS BAD AS THEY WOULD AFFECT CARNAGE, BUT THIS IS FAR MORE THAN MY OTHER CAN HANDLE!
...CHARGES ARE ALL SET TO THE MAIN SUPPORT PILLARS AND WIRED TO THE CENTER DETONATOR--
IT MIGHT BEHOOVE YOU TO PRAY, VENOM!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE FACING YOUR JUDGEMENT IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS!
JUDGEMENT, HUH?
I'LL GIVE YOU JUDGEMENT!!


IF I REMEMBER MY OLD TESTAMENT RIGHT, THERE WAS A JUDGE OF ISRAEL WHO GOT TRAPPED BY THE PHILISTINES...
...HIS NAME WAS SAMSON!
HOO-HA!!
KE-RACK!
KA-SHOOOOOOOOOM!


SHOOOOM!
THAT WAS A WHOLE SECTION OF FLOOR GIVING WAY! THE WHOLE BUILDING MAY BE DANGEROUSLY UNSTABLE!
DID WE GET LUCKY? IS THERE A CHANCE THAT THE RUBBLE BURIED THE SIN-EATER AND VENOM?
...THERE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN A STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE WITHIN THE STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING!
MICHAEL ENGELSCHWERT, THE DISTURBED GULF-WAR VETERAN WHO HAS TAKEN ON THE PERSONA OF THE SIN-EATER, MAY HAVE UNWITTINGLY BROUGHT ABOUT HIS OWN DESTRUCTION!
COULD THIS BE THE END ALSO FOR THAT ENIGMATIC SYMBIOTE WE KNOW AS VENOM?
IT BETTER NOT BE!
I PROMISED MY LITTLE GIRL I'D NAIL THAT LOW-LIFE VENOM FOR HER* AND I DON'T INTEND TO LET MY KIRSTIN DOWN!
MMMFFGGHH!
*FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED--TOM


AMAZING GRACE...
...HOW SWEET THE SONG...
...THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME!
A LITTLE FALLING RUBBLE CAN'T STOP THE WORK OF THE LORD!!
NO SIR!
GOTTA CHARLIE MIKE!
CONTINUE THE MISSION...
...JUST LIKE IN THE GULF!


GOTTA KEEP ON GOING TO THE OBJECTIVE--
--EVEN IF THE REST OF MY TEAM BOUGHT THE FARM WHEN THE BLACKHAWK WENT DOWN!
I HAVE THE STRENGTH!
I HAVE THE WILL!
BATTALION S-2 SAID THIS SCUD SITE IS ZEROED IN ON JERUSALEM!
A HOLY CITY!
WHO CAN STAND BEFORE ME WHEN THE LORD IS ON MY SIDE?
DIDN'T SAMSON SLAY TEN THOUSAND WITH AN ASS'S JAWBONE??


I CAN SET OFF THE SATCHEL CHARGES BY REMOTE CONTROL AND DESTROY THE MISSILE AND LAUNCHER!
I AM CONTINUING THE MISSION!
AND NOW, I AM ON A MISSION FOR A HIGHER POWER!
NOW, I HAVE TO BRING DOWN THE WRATH OF THE LORD ON THE WORSHIPPERS OF THE GOLDEN CALF!
I KNOW THE WAY--
--THE ANGEL OF THE LORD WHISPERED IT TO ME IN THE SHELTER!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS THIS BUTTON--!


WHY IS IT THAT YOU PSYCHOS ALWAYS HEAR THESE VOICES...
THWIPP!
...THAT YOU ATTRIBUTE TO ANGELS OR SOME OMNIPOTENT CELESTIAL DEITY!
FWOOM!
WHY CAN'T YOU GRASP THE FACT THAT IT'S JUST THE SOUND OF LOOSE MARBLES RATTLING AROUND IN YOUR VACANT HEADS!!
BLASPHEMY! YOU DENY THE WORD--!!
THWACK!
JUST YOUR PERVERTED VERSION OF IT!!
YOU WANT TO HEAR VOICES? WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THE BIRDIES CHIRP INSIDE YOUR HEAD!
KA-SHUNG!


WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH-- SEND IN THE SWAT TEAM!
IT'S ABOUT TIME REILLY GAVE US THE GREEN LIGHT!
KEEP IT TIGHT, BOYS! WE'RE HERE TO KICK BUTT AND TAKE NAMES!
HEAR THOSE VOICES YET, SIN-MUNCHER?
HEAR THEM GOING TWEET TWEET TWEET?
KA-SCHWAM!
ALL I HEAR IS THE VOICE OF THE LORD..
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
...AND IT IS THE SOUND OF SWEET THUNDER!
EEEYYAA!


YOU BOUGHT YOURSELF A LITTLE TIME, SIN-MUNCHER!
A WHOLE CLIP AT POINT BLANK RANGE IN THE FACE IS EVEN A LITTLE MUCH FOR MY OTHER TO COPE WITH--
--BUT AS SOON AS WE GET OURSELVES TOGETHER, WE ARE GOING TO REDUCE YOU TO STEAK TARTARE!
THERE THEY ARE! BLOW THEM AWAY!
RATATATAT!
HEY! YOU'RE SHOOTING THE WRONG GUY!!
WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE!!
PAWNS OF SATAN, ALL OF YOU--!!


YOUR WEAPONS OF DEMONIC EVIL HAVE NO POWER TO HARM ME!
BADOOM! BADOOM!
DON'T STRAIN THE QUALITY OF YOUR MERCY, MUNCHER!
THEY ARE AS USELESS AS FLAILS OF STRAW AGAINST AN AVENGING ANGEL OF THE LORD
JUST ONE OF YOU I SHALL SPARE FOR MY OWN PURPOSES!
RATATATATATAT!
NOT ANOTHER STEP, VENOM -- OR THIS CENTURION GOES TO HIS ETERNAL PUNISHMENT!
WHAT IS YOUR NAME, OFFICER?
M-MOORE!
CHIEF REILLY? I WANT MY VAN, THE ONE WITH THE BURGLAR ALARM LOGO, BACKED UP TO THE FRONT ENTRANCE IMMEDIATELY--
--OR I WILL MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF OFFICER MOORE!
HAND ME YOUR RADIO.


OFFICER MOORE AND I ARE LEAVING, VENOM--
IF YOU MAKE ONE MOVE TO STOP ME, THE BLOOD OF THIS INNOCENT WILL BE ON YOUR HANDS!
AND DON'T FORGET THAT I HAVE THIS REMOTE DETONATOR!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH IT THIS TIME, SIN-EATER!
I WAS PREPARED TO DESTROY MYSELF TO DO THE LORD'S WORK--
--BUT NOW I SEE THAT I AM NEEDED TO CARRY ON...TO DO MORE FOR THE GREATER GLORY!
CARRY ON. THAT'S WHAT HE DOES, ALL RIGHT! WHAT HE NEEDS IS--
HE LEFT BEHIND HIS BAG OF TRICKS!
BIG MISTAKE!


...IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SIN-EATER'S DEMANDS, THE BURGLAR ALARM COMPANY VAN HAS BEEN BACKED UP TO THE FRONT DOOR OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
...WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE DERANGED KILLER IS ENTERING THE VEHICLE BY ITS REAR DOORS WITH HIS HOSTAGE, OFFICER MOORE.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MOORE.
WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF ONE MORE PIECE OF BUSINESS...
P-PLEASE-- DON'T SHOOT ME--
FRAGILE
HOLD YOUR FIRE, BOYS! HE'S GOT ONE OF OUR OWN IN THERE!


HE'S ROLLING OUT THE VAN!!
I'VE GOT HIM DEAD IN MY SIGHTS!! SHOULD I DROP HIM??
HOLD YOUR FIRE!! HE'S GOT THAT SHOTGUN RIGHT TO MOORE'S HEAD!!
HEADS UP, SIN-EATER!
--DITCHING YOUR HOSTAGE--
THAT WAS AN INEXPLICABLE DUMB MOVE--

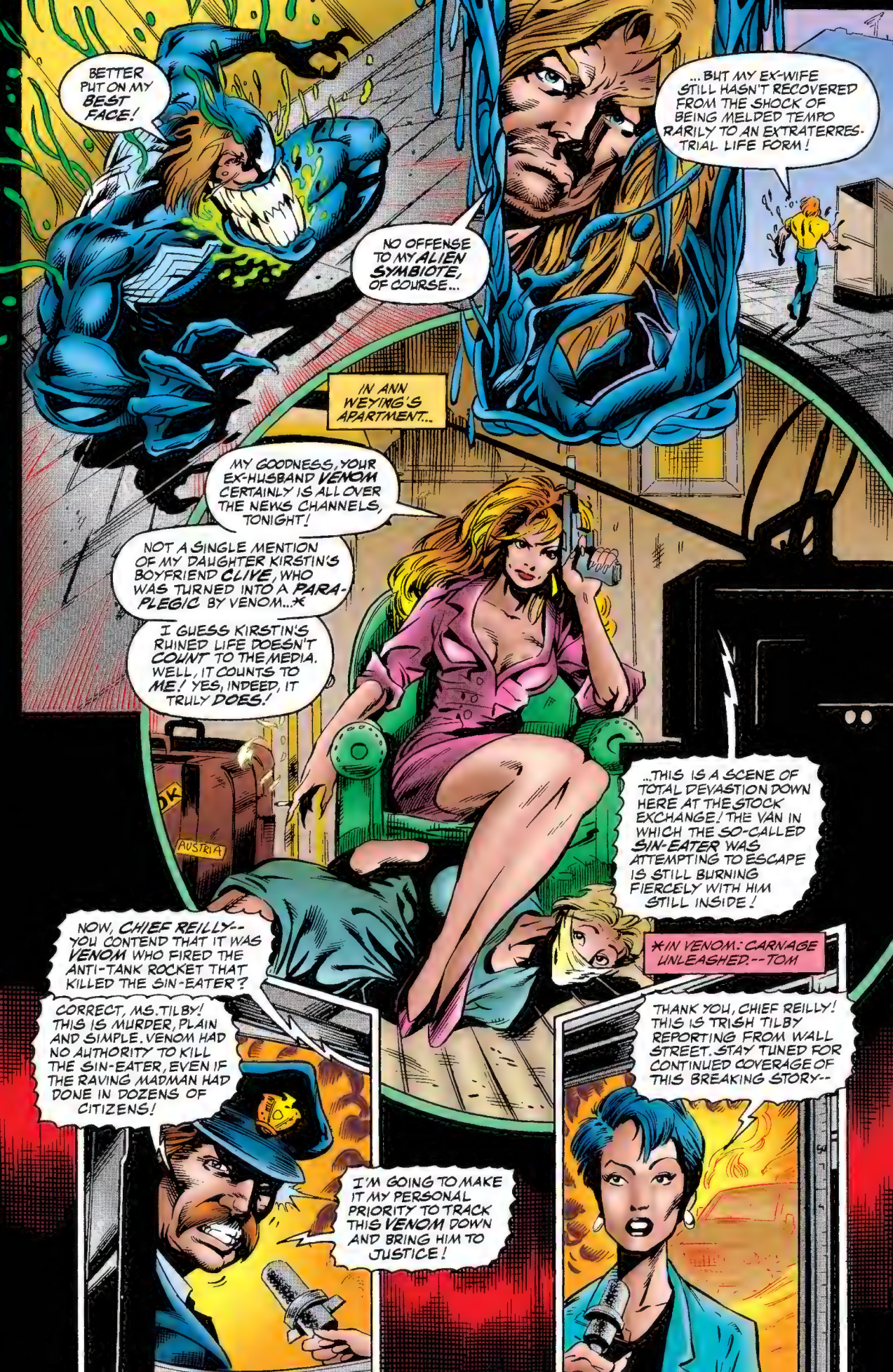

--HE WAS THE ONLY THING THAT WAS KEEPING YOU ALIVE!!
FOOOOOSH!
BA-THOO
OOOOM!
GET DOWN, MISS TILBY!!
SOMEBODY NAIL VENOM!! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!


RESCIND THAT ORDER--!
THERE ARE TOO MANY WINDOWS UP THERE! WE CAN'T CONTROL THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE!
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE WOULDN'T WANT ANY INNOCENTS GETTING INJURED OR KILLED, NOW, WOULD WE?
SO MUCH FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS!
WE NEED TO LOOK AFTER OUR OWN--!
TIME TO LOOK IN ON MY EX-WIFE, ANN WEYING!


...YOU SAW IT HERE LIVE, FOLKS! THE HORRIBLE FLAMING DEATH OF THE MAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF THE NEW SIN-EATER!
THE FATAL ROCKET WAS FIRED BY VENOM, WHO HAS ELUDED CAPTURE AND MADE HIS WAY OVER THE POLICE CORDON BY TAKING TO THE ROOFTOPS--
VENOM GOT AWAY!
THAT MEANS HE'LL BE COMING HERE TO CHECK UP ON HIS SWEETIE PIE!
THEY WON'T BE SENDING MORE COPS TO COVER THIS BUILDING BECAUSE THEY ALREADY SENT TWO DETECTIVES TO TAKE YOU AWAY TO A SAFE HOUSE!
SO, WE'LL JUST SIT HERE AND WAIT FOR YOUR NICE EX-HUBBY TO STEP INTO THE PARLOR AND WE'LL GIVE HIM A NICE BIG SURPRISE!
STAY TUNED FOR MORE UPDATES AS THE STORY DEVELOPS. THIS IS TRISH TILBY AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE, SIGNING OFF--
TO BE CONCLUDED!

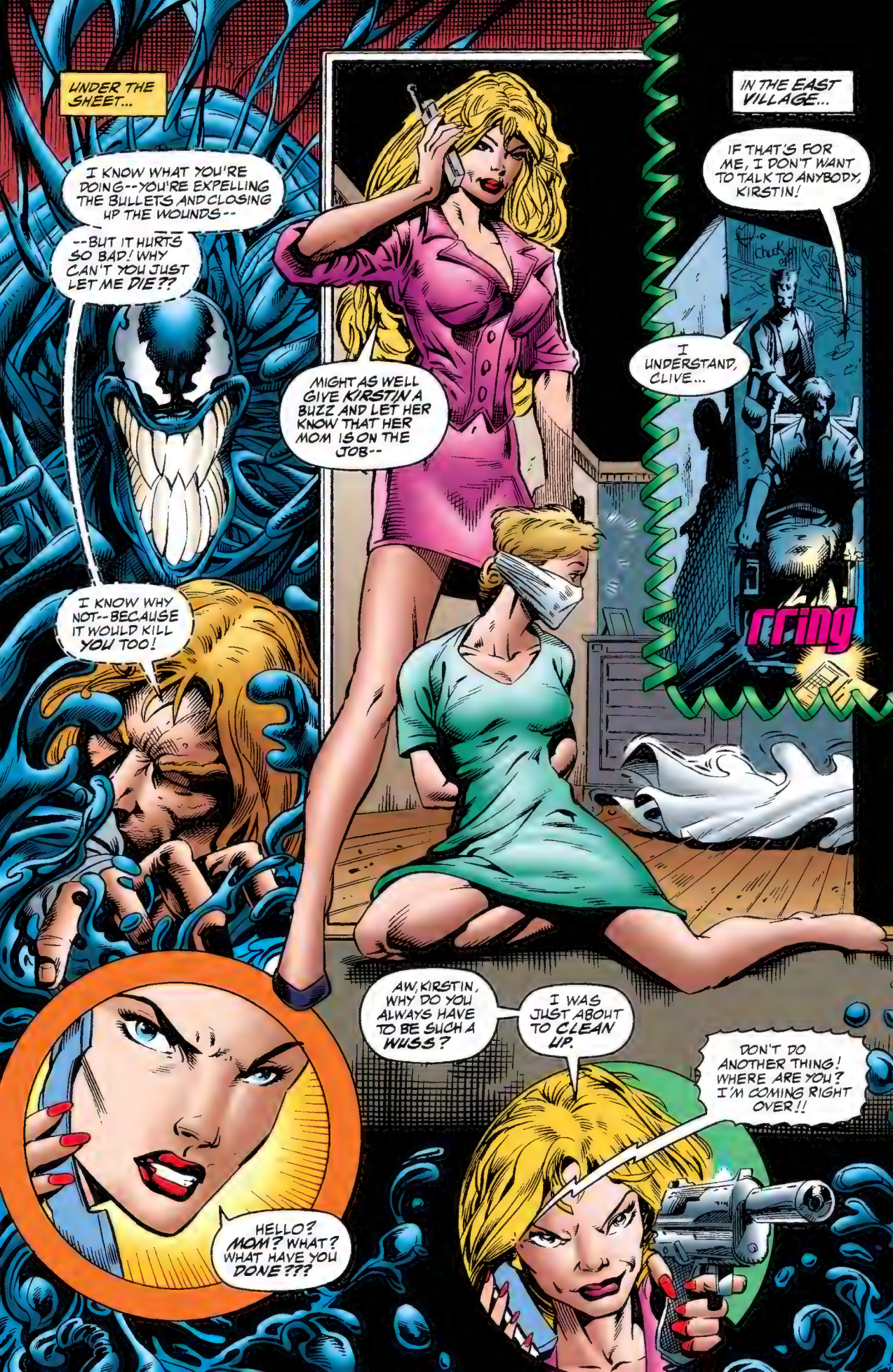

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$2.95 US
$3.00 CAN
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN
GROUP
VENOM
SINNER
TAKES
ALL!
TRUE ROMANCE


WELL, AS WE USED TO SAY IN THE NEWSPAPER BIZ, "WE PUT THAT STORY TO BED!"
QUITE A FITTING END TO SIN-EATER, GETTING BLOWN TO KINGDOM COME!*
SO MUCH FOR MAKING THINGS RIGHT FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD...
...NOW, TO TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN BUSINESS-- BY CHECKING UP ON ANN!
*LAST ISSUE. --TOM
LARRY HAMA SCRIPT
TED HALSTED PENCILS
RALPH CABRERA & JIMMY PALMIOTTI INKS
TOM SMITH COLORING
KEN LOPEZ LETTERING
TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY EDITOR IN CHIEF
A TIME TO KILL, AND A TIME TO HEAL


BETTER PUT ON MY BEST FACE!
NO OFFENSE TO MY ALIEN SYMBIOTE, OF COURSE...
...BUT MY EX-WIFE STILL HASN'T RECOVERED FROM THE SHOCK OF BEING MELDED TEMPORARILY TO AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL LIFE FORM!
IN ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT...
MY GOODNESS, YOUR EX-HUSBAND VENOM CERTAINLY IS ALL OVER THE NEWS CHANNELS, TONIGHT!
NOT A SINGLE MENTION OF MY DAUGHTER KIRSTIN'S BOYFRIEND CLIVE, WHO WAS TURNED INTO A PARAPLEGIC BY VENOM...*
I GUESS KIRSTIN'S RUINED LIFE DOESN'T COUNT TO THE MEDIA. WELL, IT COUNTS TO ME! YES, INDEED, IT TRULY DOES!
AUSTRIA
...THIS IS A SCENE OF TOTAL DEVASTION DOWN HERE AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE! THE VAN IN WHICH THE SO-CALLED SIN-EATER WAS ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE IS STILL BURNING FIERCELY WITH HIM STILL INSIDE!
*IN VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED.--TOM
NOW, CHIEF REILLY-- YOU CONTEND THAT IT WAS VENOM WHO FIRED THE ANTI-TANK ROCKET THAT KILLED THE SIN-EATER?
CORRECT, MS. TILBY! THIS IS MURDER, PLAIN AND SIMPLE. VENOM HAD NO AUTHORITY TO KILL THE SIN-EATER, EVEN IF THE RAVING MADMAN HAD DONE IN DOZENS OF CITIZENS!
I'M GOING TO MAKE IT MY PERSONAL PRIORITY TO TRACK THIS VENOM DOWN AND BRING HIM TO JUSTICE!
THANK YOU, CHIEF REILLY! THIS IS TRISH TILBY REPORTING FROM WALL STREET. STAY TUNED FOR CONTINUED COVERAGE OF THIS BREAKING STORY--


THE STORY IS GOING TO CONCLUDE RIGHT HERE, TRISH!
IF VENOM REALLY GOT AWAY, HE SHOULD BE ON HIS WAY TO SEE HIS NICE LITTLE EX AND SOOTHE HER TROUBLED BROW-- AND WHEN HE SHOWS UP--
KNOCK! KNOCK!
ANN! IT'S ME--
--BINGO!
IF I WERE AN AMATEUR, I'D OPEN THE DOOR AND VENOM WOULD JUST DEFLECT THE BULLETS AS I SHOT THEM AT HIM--
PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD! PHUD!
UHHH!!
--BUT I HAPPEN TO BE A PRO!

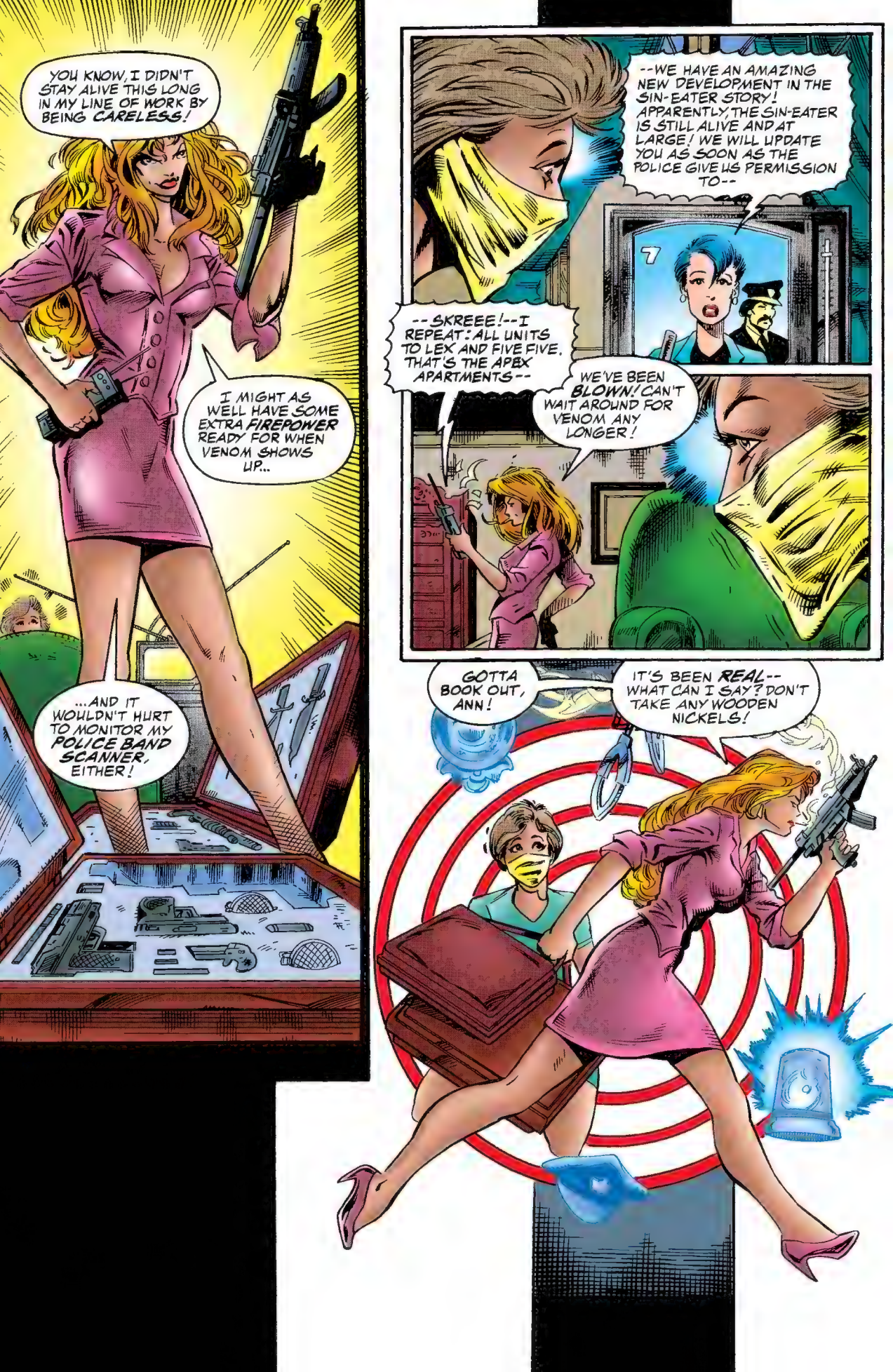

THAT WAS A LEAD PIPE CINCH--
HUH?! WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?
HEH, HEH. GETTIN' A LITTLE ON THE SIDE, EH, ANN?
YOU KNOW HE'S NOT A BAD LOOKER--
--I MEAN, HE WASN'T A BAD LOOKER! HA! I MADE A FUNNY!
I'LL JUST PUT HIM IN A NICE ROW WITH THE TWO COPS I BLEW AWAY EARLIER AND PUT THIS SHEET OVER ALL OF THEM SO THEY DON'T OFFEND OUR DELICATE SENSIBILITIES!
NOW, THAT WASN'T SO DIFFICULT AT ALL, WAS IT?
I'VE EVEN GOT TIME TO RELAX A BIT BEFORE I BUMP OFF THE WITNESS--
GNNNG!!
SORRY ABOUT THAT ANN. GOTTA KEEP THINGS TIDY, YOU KNOW! CAN'T LEAVE ANY BLOODY GLOVES AROUND!
7 LIVE
...AS YOU CAN SEE, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IS STILL TRYING TO GET THE FLAMES UNDER CONTROL...


UNDER THE SHEET...
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING--YOU'RE EXPELLING THE BULLETS AND CLOSING UP THE WOUNDS--
--BUT IT HURTS SO BAD! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LET ME DIE??
I KNOW WHY NOT--BECAUSE IT WOULD KILL YOU TOO!
MIGHT AS WELL GIVE KIRSTIN A BUZZ AND LET HER KNOW THAT HER MOM IS ON THE JOB--
IN THE EAST VILLAGE...
IF THAT'S FOR ME, I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO ANYBODY, KIRSTIN!
I UNDERSTAND, CLIVE...
rring
AW, KIRSTIN, WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE SUCH A WUSS?
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO CLEAN UP.
DON'T DO ANOTHER THING! WHERE ARE YOU? I'M COMING RIGHT OVER!!
HELLO? MOM? WHAT? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE???


AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
CFD
THAT WAS A PRETTY CLOSE CALL, OFFICER MOORE! YOU WERE LUCKY THE SIN-EATER DECIDED TO KICK YOU OUT OF THE VAN JUST BEFORE IT BLEW UP!
MY AIDE WILL DRIVE YOU BACK TO HEADQUARTERS-- YOU SURE YOU DON'T NEED TO TALK TO THE POST-TRAUMA SHRINK?
CHIEF, THE TWO PLAINCLOTHES DETECTIVES I SENT OVER TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT NEVER REPORTED IN ON THE FM OR THE LAND LINE.
I GUESS THAT ASSIGNMENT IS KIND OF MOOT NOW, ANYWAY--
NO, THE ASSIGNMENT IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS EVER!
VENOM IS LIKELY TO SHOW UP THERE! YOU HAD BETTER BUZZ UP THERE AND BRING THOSE TWO UP TO SPEED--
SAY, MOORE--YOU DON'T MIND MAKING A LITTLE DETOUR, DO YOU?
I THOUGHT NOT! YOU'RE A GOOD COP, MOORE!
YOU JUST RELAX IN THE BACK, MOORE--THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG AT ALL!


WHY CAN'T YOU CLOSE DOWN MY PAIN CENTERS, LIKE YOU DID FOR ANN?
DAMAGE TOO MASSIVE? HOW BAD WAS IT?
NO, I GUESS I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!
LOOK AT ALL THAT THRASHING! THAT CERTAINLY ISN'T RIGOR MORTIS SETTING IN!
YOUR BOYFRIEND MUST STILL BE ALIVE--
--WELL, HASTA LA VISTA, BABY!
PHUD
PHUD
PHUD
PHUD
DID THAT UPSET YOU, ANN?
AWWWW, AIN'T THAT TOO BAD!
THWAPP!


AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE...
CHIEF REILLY! YOU WANNA COME OVER HERE AND CHECK OUT THE BODY IN THE VAN?
THIS GUY WAS HANDCUFFED TO THE WHEEL AND HIS SHOTGUN WAS UNLOADED...
THEN THIS MUST HAVE BEEN OFFICER MOORE, THE HOSTAGE!
THE SIN-EATER MUST HAVE CHANGED CLOTHES WITH THE COP! THAT PSYCHO IS STILL ALIVE AND HE RODE OUT OF HERE AND--
--GOOD LORD! I SENT HIM RIGHT TO ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT!!
--ALL UNITS, OFFICER IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AT THE APEX APARTMENT TOWERS ON LEX CROSS FIVE FIVE!
HEY! THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING! I WONDER WHO'S IN TROUBLE?
YOU ARE, CENTHRION!
WHAT??
NYFD


YOU KNOW, I DIDN'T STAY ALIVE THIS LONG IN MY LINE OF WORK BY BEING CARELESS!
I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE SOME EXTRA FIREPOWER READY FOR WHEN VENOM SHOWS UP...
...AND IT WOULDN'T HURT TO MONITOR MY POLICE BAND SCANNER, EITHER!
--WE HAVE AN AMAZING NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE SIN-EATER STORY! APPARENTLY, THE SIN-EATER IS STILL ALIVE AND AT LARGE! WE WILL UPDATE YOU AS SOON AS THE POLICE GIVE US PERMISSION TO--
7
--SKREEE!--I REPEAT: ALL UNITS TO LEX AND FIVE FIVE. THAT'S THE APEX APARTMENTS--
WE'VE BEEN BLOWN! CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR VENOM ANY LONGER!
GOTTA BOOK OUT, ANN!
IT'S BEEN REAL--WHAT CAN I SAY? DON'T TAKE ANY WOODEN NICKELS!


WHEW!
YOU DIDN'T THINK I FORGOT TO POP YOU, DID YOU?
NOOO!
YOU LEAVE HER ALONE, YOU SADISTIC WITCH!
YOU--YOU'RE VENOM! DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITHOUT THE OUTFIT!
YOU SURE ARE THE DURABLE ONE!
BUT IT JUST SO HAPPENS I'M LOADED FOR BEAR WITH HIGH VELOCITY 9mm ARMOR-PIERCING AMMO!
LOOK UP THE BARREL AND SAY "CHEESE"!


WOW! YOU SURE CAN TAKE A LICKIN' AND KEEP ON TICKIN'!
I'M GONNA HAVE TO RELOAD AND EMPTY ANOTHER WHOLE CLIP INTO YOU!
BUT AT LEAST I HAVEN'T BEEN WASTING MY TIME HERE!
YOU HAVE TO LEAVE ME AND GO TO ANN!
SHUNK
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF AMMO!
WE ONLY HAVE ONE CHANCE!
DON'T ARGUE WITH ME!! JUST DO IT!!!


KA-SHUNG!
DOES AN ANN WEYING LIVE HERE?
. WHAT'S IT TO YOU, BUDDY?
SPECIAL AIDE TO CHIEF REILLY, NYPD.
GO RIGHT ON UP! THERE'S TWO OTHER COPS UP THERE ALREADY!
HEY! AREN'T YOU GONNA CALL IN ABOUT THIS HYDRANT?
HE LEFT THE MOTOR RUNNING AND THE LIGHTS FLASHING!
LEAST I CAN DO IS TURN OFF THE--
--GOOD LORD!!


THAT'S SOME NEAT TRICK YOU PULL WITH THAT COSTUME, VENOM--MUST SAVE ON THE CLEANING BILLS, HUH?
WELL, YOUR WARDROBE ISN'T GOING TO SAVE YOU FROM GETTING WHAT YOU DESERVE FOR RUINING MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE!
YOU'RE GONNA--
HUH?
THWAMM!
ANN--?

MORE THAN JUST ANN!!

WE ARE GREATER THAN OUR PARTS!!

RATATAT

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GONNA BE--

--PARTS!

STICKS AND STONES CAN'T BREAK OUR BONES, AND BULLETS AREN'T ALL THAT EFFECTIVE EITHER!!

SCRUNCH

AND THIS SURE DOESN'T TICKLE, DOES IT?

THWAMM!

IT STILL MUST SMART TO GET SHOT IN THE FACE!!

RATATATATAT!

WE CAN TAKE AN AWFUL LOT OF PUNISHMENT--

--AS LONG AS WE GET A CHANCE TO EAT YOUR BRAIN, YOU SLEAZY TRASHOID FASHION MONGREL!!!

ANN! DON'T DO IT!!

SLAMM!

--A LOT MORE THAN YOU CAN DISH OUT--


YOU BUTT OUT OF THIS!!
WHAMM
WHEN I WHET MY FLASHING SWORD, AND MY HAND TAKES HOLD ON JUDGMENT...
YOU DON'T SAY!!
KRASH!
...I WILL TAKE VENGEANCE ON MY ADVERSARIES, AND WILL REPAY THOSE WHO HATE ME! DEUTERONOMY 32:41
BLAM!
THAT'S THE WORD OF THE LORD, DEMON!!
KA-
WAY TO GO, SONNY!


SKREEE!
THIS IS IT! PULL OVER HERE!!
YOU HAVE TO STOP HER, KIRSTIN!
KOOL
71
I'LL DO MY BEST, CLIVE--
--BUT YOU DON'T KNOW MY MOM!
LET ME GUESS--ANN WEYING'S APARTMENT, RIGHT?
I ALREADY KNOW THE FLOOR AND NUMBER!
BACK OFF, ANN! THAT'S THE SIN-EATER YOU'RE FACING!
SO? I'LL EAT HIS BRAIN, TOO!!
WHAT? YOU'RE NOT THE SAME VENOM I TANGLED WITH BEFORE!! YOU'RE--
BRRRRAP
DRAT! RAN OUTTA AMMO!
THESE WACKOS ARE HARD TO KILL!
GET OUT OF THE WAY, CHUMP! YOU'RE BLOCKING MY LINE OF FIRE!!
BRRRRRRRRAPP--CLICK!


ARE YOU TALKING TO ANN OR THE OTHER?
WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A BRAND NEW POLICE SHOTGUN!
PUT THAT DOWN--!
YOU HAD BETTER COME BACK TO ME THIS INSTANT, OR ELSE!
NO, CHUMP-- IT'S YOU WHO'S GONNA GET PUT DOWN!!
EDDIE, NOOOOO!
KA-BLAMM!
THWACK!
YES, WELL, THAT WOULD CERTAINLY PROVIDE THE REQUISITE HEAT AND NOISE TO RAIN ON MY PARADE!!
WHAT DO I NEED HERE, A TACTICAL NUKE?
YOUR KID IS A REAL PEACH, LADY--


--HOW CAN SHE HAVE SUCH AN UTTER LOW-LIFE FOR A MOTHER?
SHE TAKES AFTER HER FATHER! HE WAS A WEAK-WILLED DREAMER, TOO!
MOM!!
I TOLD CLIVE AND HE WAS HORRIFIED THAT ANYBODY WOULD COMMIT AN ACT OF VIOLENCE FOR HIS SAKE, NO MATTER WHAT!
HE'S RIGHT, MOM--YOU CAN'T ANSWER VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE ALL THE TIME, OR ELSE YOU LOSE YOUR SOUL!!
YOU'VE ALREADY LOST YOUR SOULS...
...BUT I CAN SAVE YOU ALL!
I AM ABOUT TO ENTER THE KINGDOM, AND I CAN TAKE YOU ALL WITH ME!!
IT'S A BOMB!
beep
--LET ME MAKE IT RIGHT!!
KE-RASH!
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT--!!

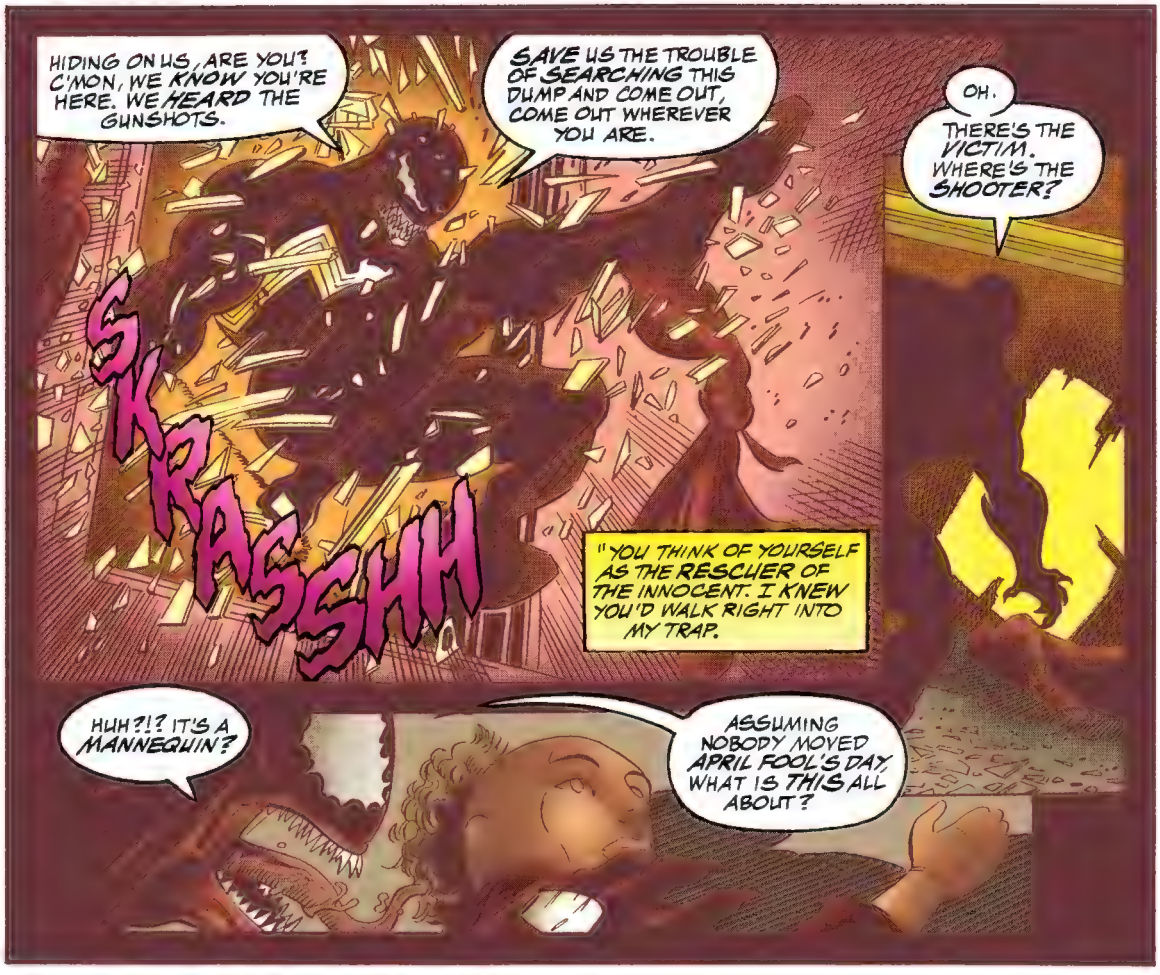

KIRSTIN!!!
I LET CLIVE FALL--
GOTCHA!!
--I'M NOT GOING TO LET IT HAPPEN TO YOU!!
HE SHALL STRIKE THE EARTH WITH THE ROD OF HIS MOUTH...
...AND WITH THE BREATH OF HIS LIPS--
YOU'RE NOT GETTING OFF AT THIS STOP, SIN-EATER!!
THWACK!
--HE
SHALL
KILL
THE
WICKED!

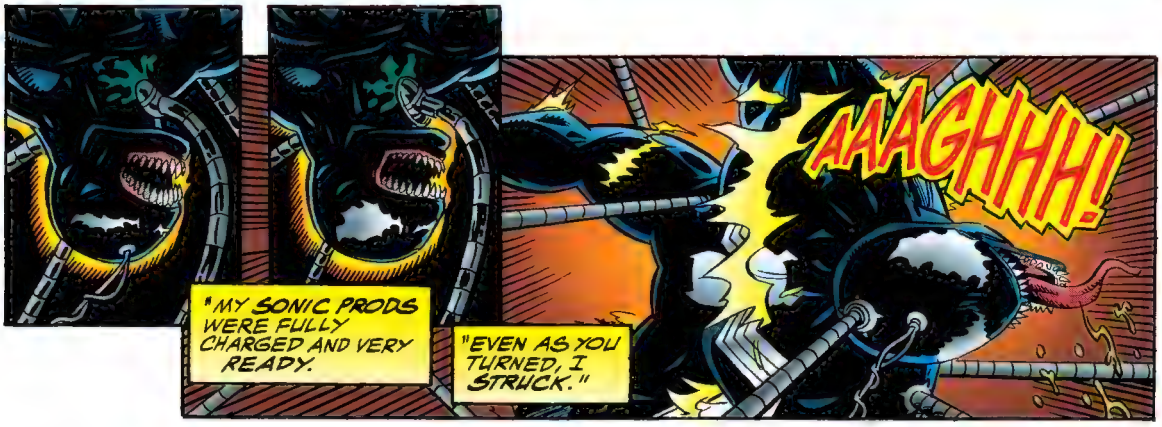

CLIVE-- I'M--
SORRY? YOU CAN SHOVE YOUR APOLOGY! JUST BECAUSE I DON'T BELIEVE IN REVENGE DOESN'T MEAN I CAN FORGIVE YOU!
AH YES! SO MUCH FOR HAPPY ENDINGS!
THWAMM!
NY W7147 NEW YORK


SHE'S SAFE!!
NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOOT MY WAY OUT OF HERE--!
DON'T COUNT ON IT!!
CRASH!
THAT VENOM--
--WHAT AN ENIGMA!!
POLICE LINE DO
ARRRRGH! WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH ME??
I JUST BRING PAIN AND SUFFERING TO EVERYONE I KNOW!!
NEXT: ALONG CAME A

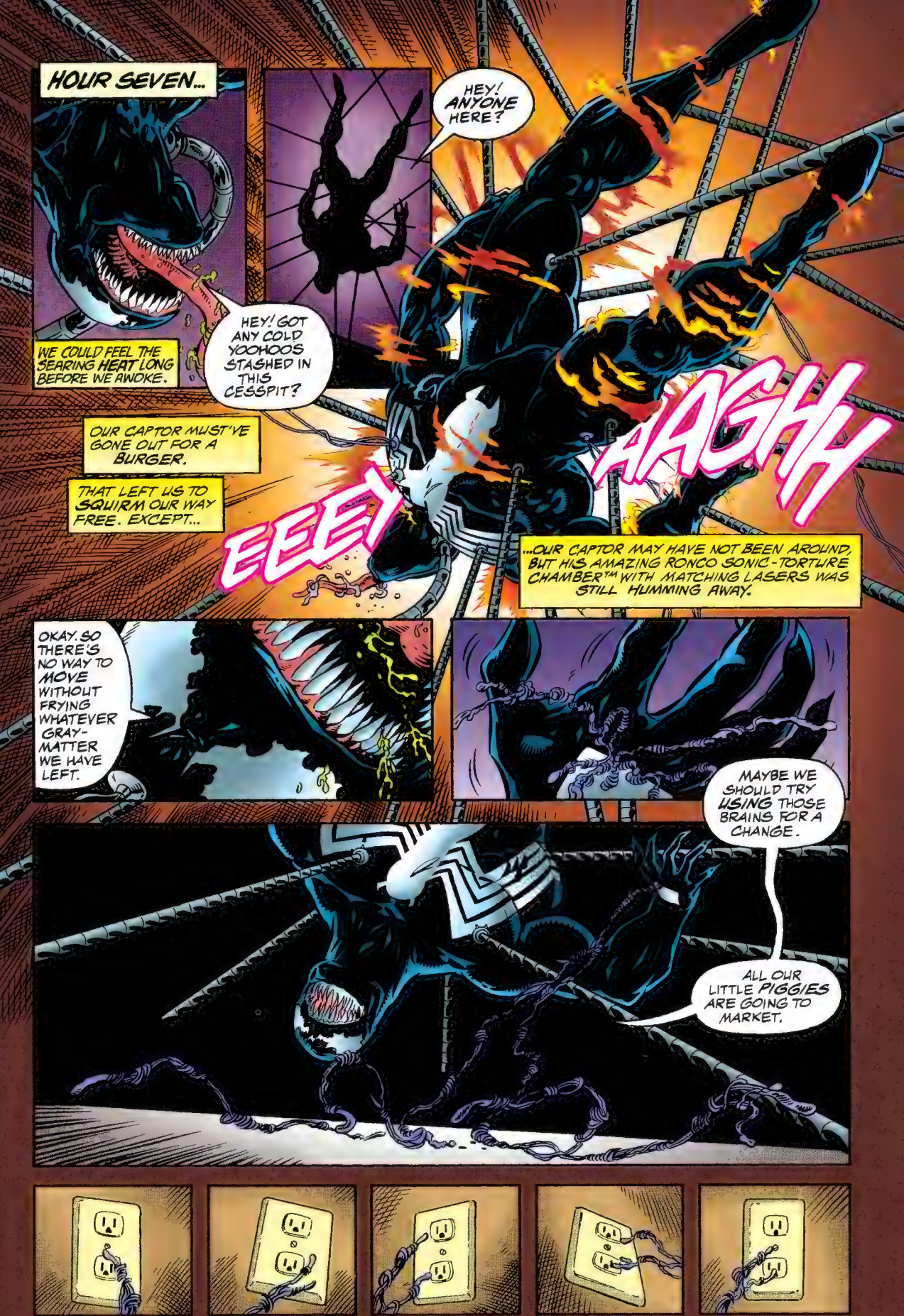

HOUR FOUR...
WHEN WE WOKE, WE THOUGHT WE WERE ON FIRE.
SYMBIOTE
KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER
MARK BERNARDO
COLORIST
GLENN GREENBERG
ASST. EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY
EDITOR IN CHIEF
OUR SKIN BURNED LIKE OUR BLOOD WAS ACID BUBBLING HOT TO THE SURFACE, MELTING FLESH AWAY FROM BONE.
WE THOUGHT WE WERE STILL ASLEEP, THAT THIS WAS SOME TERRIBLE NIGHTMARE. BUT WE WERE WRONG; IT WAS WORSE...
EEYAAAGGGHHHH
YOU'RE AWAKE, EDDIE. THAT'S GOOD, SO VERY GOOD. I WANTED YOU AWAKE, YOU KNOW.
IT BECOMES PART OF THE PLEASURE KNOWING YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SO MUCH PAIN.
AND THERE IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH PAIN.


I WANT YOUR SYMBIOTE, EDDIE, THAT ALIEN... THING THAT GIVES YOU LIFE AND POWER.
BUT IT WON'T COME WILLINGLY, SO I HAVE TO REMOVE IT.
HARSHLY.
THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A TICKLE IN THE RIBS. SILLY US-- WE THOUGHT YOU WERE A SERIOUS PSYCHO.
I DO HOPE YOU FIND YOURSELF AMUSING. ONE OF US SHOULD.
WON'T BE LONG NOW, A FEW HOURS AT MOST.
THEN I CAN BEGIN THE DISSECTION.
I DO HOPE WHAT MAKES THE SYMBIOTE SO POWERFUL ALSO DOESN'T MAKE ONE AS... RIDICULOUSLY STUPID AS YOU APPARENTLY ARE.
"YOU WERE SO BLIND TO BEING FOLLOWED. DAY IN AND DAY OUT I OBSERVED YOUR ACTIONS.
"YOU NEVER DISAPPOINTED ME, EDDIE.
"LIKE THE SWALLOWS TO CAPISTRANO, YOU ALWAYS RETURNED TO ONE NEIGHBORHOOD... ONE BLOCK.
BAM BAM BAM
"I KNEW HOW TO TAKE THAT INFORMATION...
"...AND USE IT TO LURE YOU TO ME."
IT FIGURES. JUST WHEN WE THOUGHT WE WERE OUT FOR THE NIGHT...
...THEY PULL US BACK IN.


HIDING ON US, ARE YOU? C'MON, WE KNOW YOU'RE HERE. WE HEARD THE GUNSHOTS.
SAVE US THE TROUBLE OF SEARCHING THIS DUMP AND COME OUT, COME OUT WHEREVER YOU ARE.
OH. THERE'S THE VICTIM. WHERE'S THE SHOOTER?
SKRASHH
"YOU THINK OF YOURSELF AS THE RESCUER OF THE INNOCENT. I KNEW YOU'D WALK RIGHT INTO MY TRAP.
HUH?!? IT'S A MANNEQUIN?
ASSUMING NOBODY MOVED APRIL FOOL'S DAY. WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?


"MY SONIC PRODS WERE FULLY CHARGED AND VERY READY.
"EVEN AS YOU TURNED, I STRUCK."
AAAGHHH!


YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHY YOU REMAINED VENOM EVEN WHILE YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS. BLAME ME, EDDIE.
AS A HUMAN YOU ARE USELESS. I NEED THE SYMBIOTE AND MY MACHINES PREVENTED IT FROM RETREATING.
SKRRREEEEEE
NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE STILL A FEW HOURS TO GO, AND AS I DON'T WANT YOU CAUSING ANY PROBLEMS, I THINK IT'S TIME AGAIN TO SAY--
--GOOD NIGHT!


HOUR SEVEN...
HEY! ANYONE HERE?
WE COULD FEEL THE SEARING HEAT LONG BEFORE WE AWOKE.
HEY! GOT ANY COLD YOOHOOS STASHED IN THIS CESSPIT?
OUR CAPTOR MUST'VE GONE OUT FOR A BURGER.
THAT LEFT US TO SQUIRM OUR WAY FREE. EXCEPT...
EEE!
AAGH!
...OUR CAPTOR MAY HAVE NOT BEEN AROUND, BUT HIS AMAZING RONCO SONIC-TORTURE CHAMBER™ WITH MATCHING LASERS WAS STILL HUMMING AWAY.
OKAY. SO THERE'S NO WAY TO MOVE WITHOUT FRYING WHATEVER GRAY-MATTER WE HAVE LEFT.
MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY USING THOSE BRAINS FOR A CHANGE.
ALL OUR LITTLE PIGGIES ARE GOING TO MARKET.


SHORT CIRCUIT!
KKSSZZLLEE
AAAGHH!
TA DAAA.
NOW WHAT?
SKROOSH
HEY, SADIST-- YOU FORGET YOU HAD COMPANY?
NOBODY ANSWERED, WHICH WAS FINE WITH US.
OUR CAPTOR'S MACHINE WASN'T EXACTLY DELICATE WHEN IT RIPPED A GOOD CHUNK OF US APART...
...SO WE WERE STILL FEELING LIKE SOMEONE SET OFF A NUCLEAR BOMB IN OUR GUT THAT WOULDN'T GO AWAY.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK-SEE, SHALL WE?


EDDIE. UP HERE. UP-STAIRS.
TIME FOR PLAN B.
LET'S SEE--YOU WERE IN THE JOHN WHEN WE ESCAPED, RIGHT?
WE SUPPOSE YOU MAD-SCIENTIST TYPES WOULD HAVE TO GO LIKE THE REST OF US.
WELL, NOW THAT WE'RE FREE, WE'D LIKE TO CONTINUE OUR PLEASANT CONVERSATION WITH YOU--ON OUR TERMS!
WE DIDN'T CARE WHAT WAS WAITING, BUT WE WERE READY.
READY TO RIP THE FLESH FROM HIS FACE AN' FEED ON IT.
SKRUNCHK
IT WAS ALL GLASS, LIKE A GREENHOUSE. IF WE WEREN'T IN NEW YORK YOU'D BE ABLE TO SEE STARS SHINING ABOVE.
HELLO, EDDIE.
SHUT UP, PLEASE. WE NEVER TALK TO OUR DINNER.


BEAUTIFUL NIGHT, ISN'T IT? CRISP, CLEAR, COOL BUT HARDLY COLD. SUCH PERFECTION IS RARE IN NEW YORK.
CAN THE WEATHER-CHANNEL AND SPIN. WE WISH TO SEE WHO WE'RE ABOUT TO GRIND INTO CHUCK.
YOU KNOW, EDDIE, IT TOOK A LOT OF PREPARATION TO BRING YOU HERE.
YOU CERTAINLY GET OFF ON TALKING TO YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?
EVEN THE INFINITESIMAL PERCENTAGE I'VE ALREADY SIPHONED FROM YOUR SYMBIOTE IS CHANGING ME.
I CAN NOW UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MUST FEEL LIKE. IT'S INVIGORATED ME BEYOND ANYTHING I EVER EXPECTED.
EVEN AS TAKING IT WEAKENED YOU, IT'S PROVIDED ME WITH POWER!
NOW, ONCE AGAIN, VENOM-- GOOD NIGHT!
I WANT TO END WHAT I'VE BEGUN.
WHOOMPH
BUT IT WAS WORTH IT, ALL OF IT.

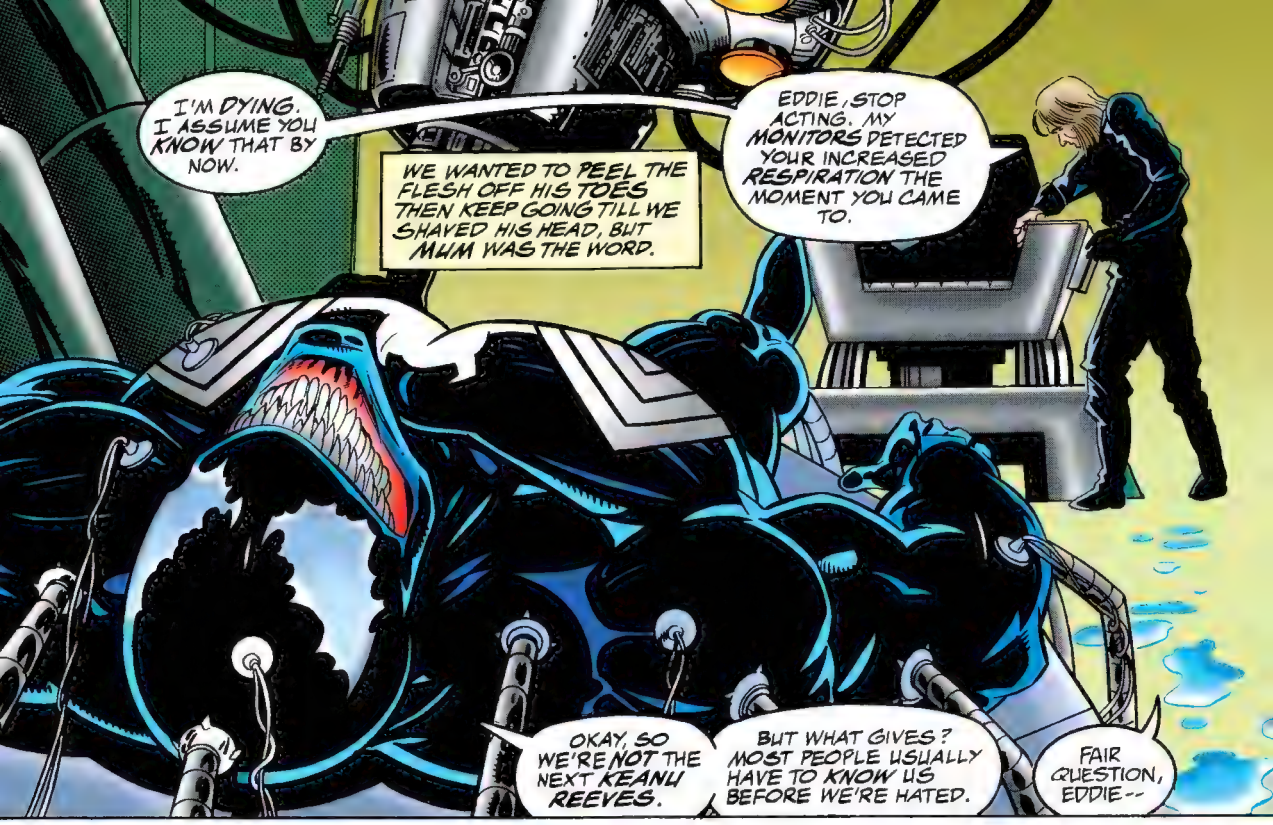

TELL YOU WHAT, LOSER, WE'LL END IT FOR YOU...
...WITH YOUR HEAD SPLATTERED LIKE A MELON AGAINST THE WALL.
WE FIGURED WE'D TAKE HIM OUT FAST, THEN ASK QUESTIONS LATER.
SKRASSHH
WE'RE GOING FOR A TRIP.
ONE WAY!
OOPS. THOUGHT THE HUDSON WAS RIGHT BELOW US.

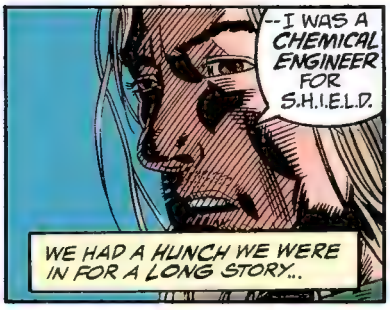

PAL, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
BUT IF YOU CAN FLY, DO IT--NOW.
WE TWISTED RIGHT AND JUST ABOUT MADE IT.
OUR CAPTOR...
...WASN'T QUITE SO LUCKY.
DON'T KNOW WHY...
...BUT WE'RE SUDDENLY HUNGERING FOR PIZZA!
HUH? YOU'RE FIVE SHADES OF WHITE... LIKE YOU WERE DEAD EVEN BEFORE THE FALL.
WELL, THAT'S NO SKIN OFF OUR FANGS.
LATER...
...LOSER.

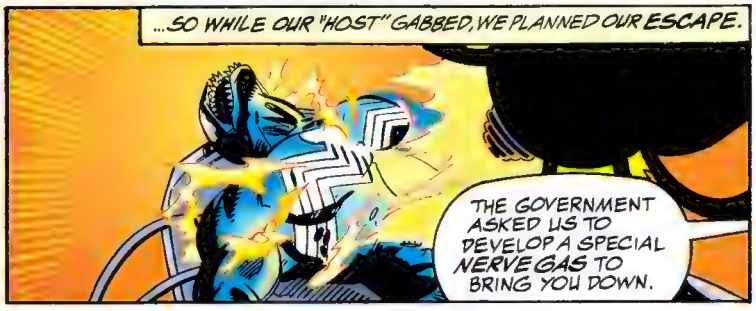

UNNNHHH
HEALING...
IT WORKED...IT WORKS!
I'M STILL WEAK, BUT NOW I KNOW IT WILL ACTUALLY CURE ME.
I NEED IT ALL!
I NEED IT NOW!
SO I NEED MORE.


VENOM!
NAH. CAN'T BE.
BUT IT WAS, AND THE HEAT STILL BURNING IN OUR CHEST FELT LIKE IT WAS ABOUT TO EXPLODE.
SONIC BLAST!
IT'S TIME NOW, EDDIE, TO PAY THE PIPER FOR YOUR SINS.
SSKKRREEEECH
TO SUFFER FOR WHAT YOU DID TO ME.
WE'D NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE SO WHAT WAS HE BABBLING ABOUT?
WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO FIND OUT.
LYING FACE DOWN IN THE HUDSON MIGHT HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT.

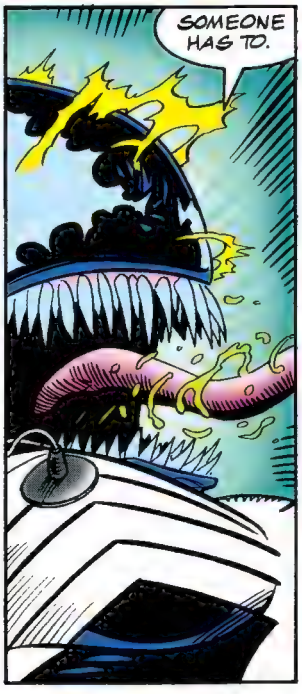

Y-YOU WEIGH A TON, EDDIE. I-IT'S DIFFICULT MOVING MYSELF, LET ALONE YOU.
WHY DIDN'T YOU ;HUN HUN HUN HUN; JUST STAY PUT IN THE LAB?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE THIS SO DIFFICULT?
SO IT'S ONE STEP AT A TIME, BUT WE'LL MAKE IT. WE HAVE TO.
;HUN HUN HUN HUN;--IF I HADN'T SIPHONED EVEN THAT SMALL TASTE OF THE SYMBIOTE I NEVER COULD HAVE SAVED YOU.
THEN YOU WOULD HAVE DROWNED..
...AND ALL THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A TERRIBLE WASTE.
FOR ONCE WE KEPT OUR EYES CLOSED AND OUR MOUTH SHUT. SOMETIMES THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO GET THESE PSYCHOS TO BLABBER.
AND THE MORE THEY TALK, THE BETTER OUR CHANCES TO RECUPERATE AND THEN TEAR THEM INTO BLOODY LITTLE MEAT RIBBONS.


I'M DYING. I ASSUME YOU KNOW THAT BY NOW.
WE WANTED TO PEEL THE FLESH OFF HIS TOES THEN KEEP GOING TILL WE SHAVED HIS HEAD, BUT MUM WAS THE WORD.
EDDIE, STOP ACTING. MY MONITORS DETECTED YOUR INCREASED RESPIRATION THE MOMENT YOU CAME TO.
OKAY, SO WE'RE NOT THE NEXT KEANU REEVES.
BUT WHAT GIVES? MOST PEOPLE USUALLY HAVE TO KNOW US BEFORE WE'RE HATED.
FAIR QUESTION, EDDIE--


--I WAS A CHEMICAL ENGINEER FOR S.H.I.E.L.D.
WE HAD A HUNCH WE WERE IN FOR A LONG STORY..


...SO WHILE OUR "HOST" GABBED, WE PLANNED OUR ESCAPE.
THE GOVERNMENT ASKED US TO DEVELOP A SPECIAL NERVE GAS TO BRING YOU DOWN.

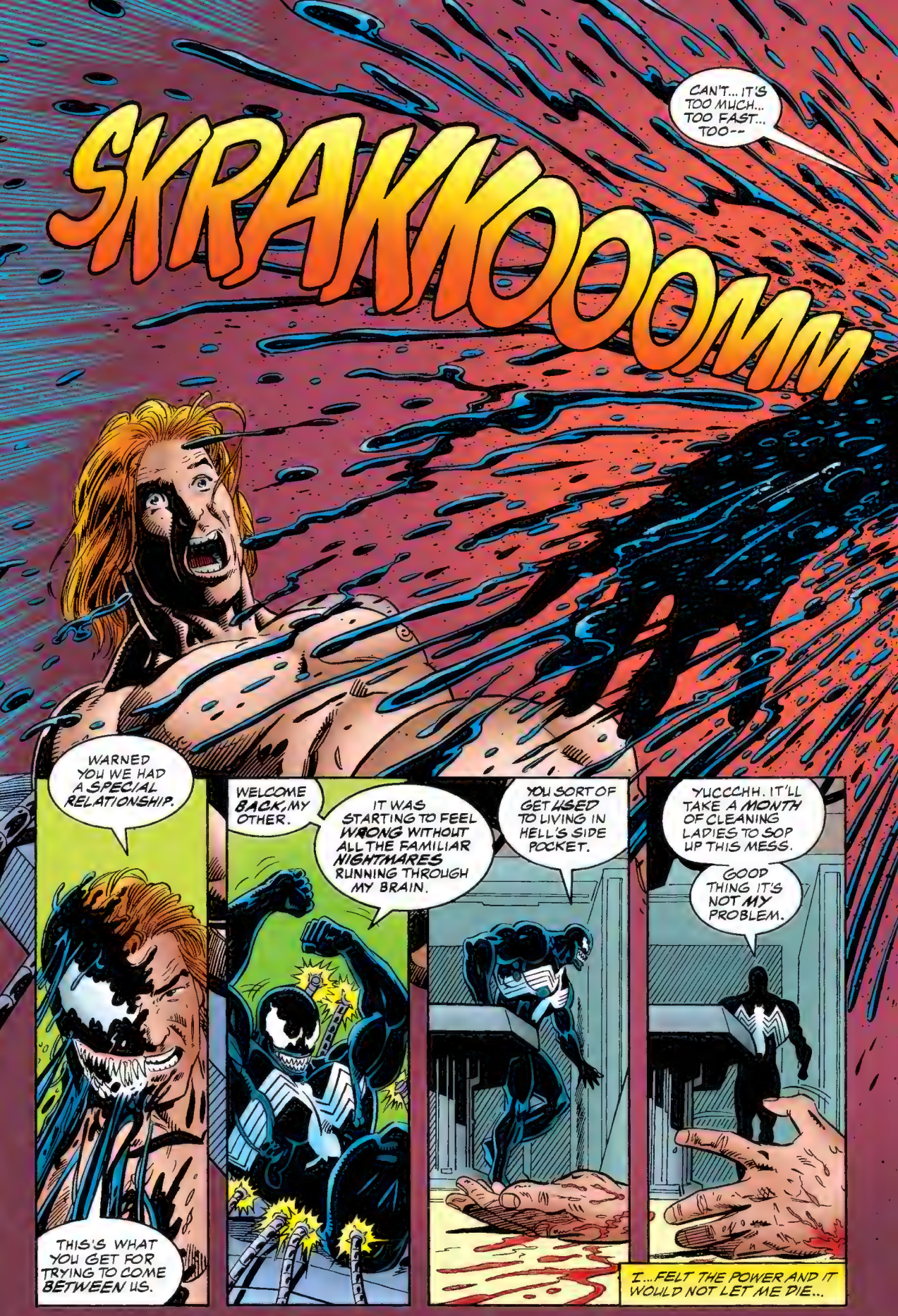

US? WE PAY OUR TAXES AND HARDLY EVER CHEAT.
YOU DO ENJOY YOUR HUMOR, DON'T YOU?

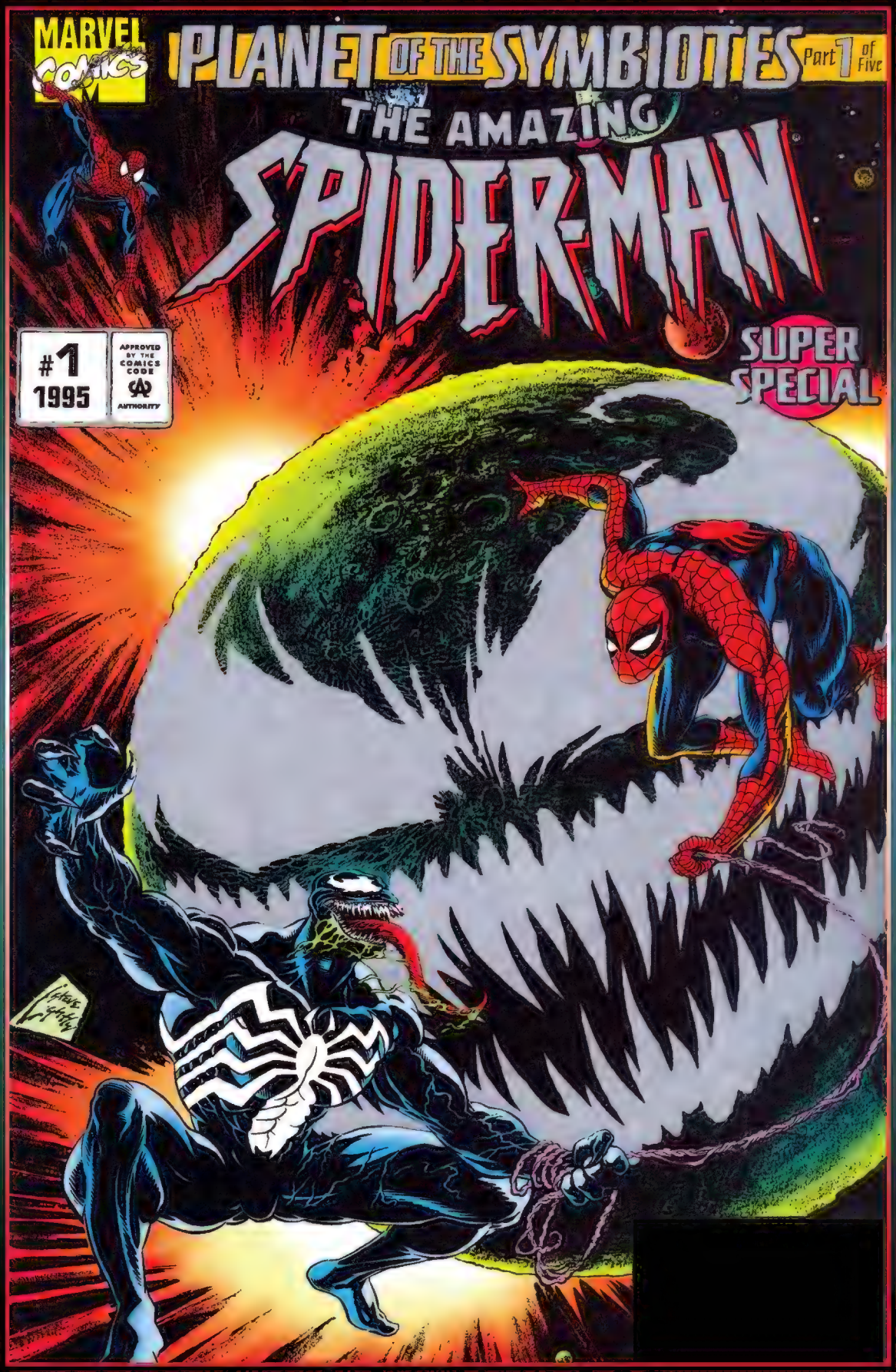

SOMEONE HAS TO.


BUT THE NERVE GAS GOT INTO MY SYSTEM. BECAUSE OF YOU I WAS DYING.
STILL, I HAD READ YOUR FILES. I KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU... AND THE SYMBIOTE.
I BELIEVE IT CAN KEEP ME ALIVE. BUT IT'S MORE THAN THAT, EDDIE...


...I BELIEVE ITS HEALING FACTOR CAN MAKE ME IMMORTAL.
I NEED TO EXTRACT THE SYMBIOTE FROM YOU. I NEED IT TO TAKE ME OVER.
I NEED IT TO GIVE ME ITS POWER AND ITS LIFE!
YOU MUST BE A DOZEN FLOORS SHY OF A SKYSCRAPER. IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN.
WE HAVE A SYMBIOTIC BOND. WE'RE NOT SEPARATE... WE'RE ONE.
I UNDERSTAND REMOVING IT FORCIBLY WILL PROBABLY KILL YOU, EDDIE BUT IT'LL STILL EXIST.
REMAINING SYMBIOTE EXTRACTION ACTIVATE
AARRRGGHHH!
I AM SORRY, BUT YOUR OTHER IS ALL I CARE ABOUT.
ENTER ME, SYMBIOTE... BECOME PART OF ME AS YOU WERE WITH EDDIE BROCK.
LET ME POSSESS YOUR STRENGTH.
GIVE ME YOUR LIFE!


YES... I CAN FEEL IT ENTERING...
MY GOD! THIS IS MORE THAN I EVER REALIZED IT COULD BE.
THOSE SOUNDS... LIKE NOTHING I'VE EVER HEARD BEFORE, COLORS I COULD NEVER IMAGINE...
THIS IS SO INCREDIBLE...
HOW COULD YOU BE SO SELFISH TO KEEP THIS ALL FOR YOUR--
YOU WANTED THE SYMBIOTE, GRUESOME. BUT IF YOU TAKE IT, YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE IT ALL!
OH, GOD-- IT'S COMING IN TOO FAST... I--I CAN'T ABSORB IT ALL. N-NOW IT'S CHANGING!
N...NOOO!
IT'S HORRIBLE! NOISE... SO SHRILL... SO PIERCING... MY EARS... BLEEDING... COLORS... TURNING INTO... INTO THINGS... INTO MONSTERS!!!
THOSE AWFUL, TERRIBLE IMAGES... BURNING INTO MY BRAIN! I--I CAN'T SHUT THEM OUT... I CAN'T MAKE THEM GO!
MAKE IT STOP! MAKE IT GO AWAY!!


SKRAKKOOOMM
CAN'T... IT'S TOO MUCH... TOO FAST... TOO--
WARNED YOU WE HAD A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP.
THIS'S WHAT YOU GET FOR TRYING TO COME BETWEEN US.
WELCOME BACK, MY OTHER.
IT WAS STARTING TO FEEL WRONG WITHOUT ALL THE FAMILIAR NIGHTMARES RUNNING THROUGH MY BRAIN.
YOU SORT OF GET USED TO LIVING IN HELL'S SIDE POCKET.
YUCCCHH. IT'LL TAKE A MONTH OF CLEANING LADIES TO SOP UP THIS MESS.
GOOD THING IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.
I...FELT THE POWER AND IT WOULD NOT LET ME DIE...


MARVEL COMICS
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
Part 1 of Five
THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
SUPER SPECIAL
#1
1995
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY


BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!
Stan Lee PRESENTS
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
MAN, YOU GUYS JUST KILL ME--!
ZRATCH
VREEE
ZWAK
VREEEET
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES CHAPTER ONE:
THE FAR CRY!
DAVID MICHELINIE · WRITER DAVE HOOVER · PENCILER RALPH CABRERA · INKER BILL OAKLEY · LETTERER
TOM SMITH · COLORIST TOM BREVOORT · EDITOR DANNY FINGEROTH · GROUP EDITOR BOB BUDIANSKY · EDITOR IN CHIEF

YOU SAY YOU'RE *NEO-LUDDITES*, WANT TO ELIMINATE *TECHNOLOGY*--

--BUT YOU DO IT WITH STOLEN *LASER* RIFLES?!?

TALK ABOUT *MEGA*-HYPOCRISY--!

THE DEVIL'S *ARMS* SERVE WELL AGAINST THE DEVIL'S *WORK*!

BESIDES, DESTROYING THAT *CLYSTRON WAVE MODULATOR* IS WORTH ANY COMPROMISE!

THAT'S THEIR TARGET? THAT BIG MACHINE SUSPENDED OVERHEAD?

IT COMPACTS ENERGY WAVES, MULTIPLYING THE STRENGTH OF ANY ATTACHED *POWER SOURCE* BY TEN!

TECHNOLOGY ALREADY BLIGHTS THE ENVIRONMENT-- THIS "ADVANCE" COULD INCREASE THAT DETERIORATION *TENFOLD!*

SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING!

CAUGHT IN A SQUEEZE PLAY!

CAN'T TUMBLE AWAY IN TIME!

BUT WITH THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A *SPIDER*--

TOK

"--I DON'T HAVE TO!"

SKTASH


SIXTY SECONDS EARLIER, ONE BLOCK AWAY.
IS IT... US?
EDDIE BROCK COMMUNES WITH THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT MIMICS HIS HUMAN CLOTHING.
EVER SINCE WE JOINED, BECAME ONE--
--BECAME VENOM--
--I SAW US AS KINDRED SPIRITS, ACTING TOGETHER. NOW--
--I'M NOT SURE.*
*SINCE THE EVENTS OF VENOM: SEPARATION ANXIETY.-- TOM
I KNOW IT'S RIGHT TO PROTECT INNOCENTS, NO MATTER WHAT COST--
--INCLUDING THE DEATHS OF THOSE WHO'D HINDER US! AND YET...
...HAVE THOSE DEATHS BEEN OUR CHOICE, OR YOURS?
I WAS ALWAYS A PHYSICAL PERSON, BUT UNTIL OUR UNION I WAS NEVER SO--
--VIOLENT?
SKTASH

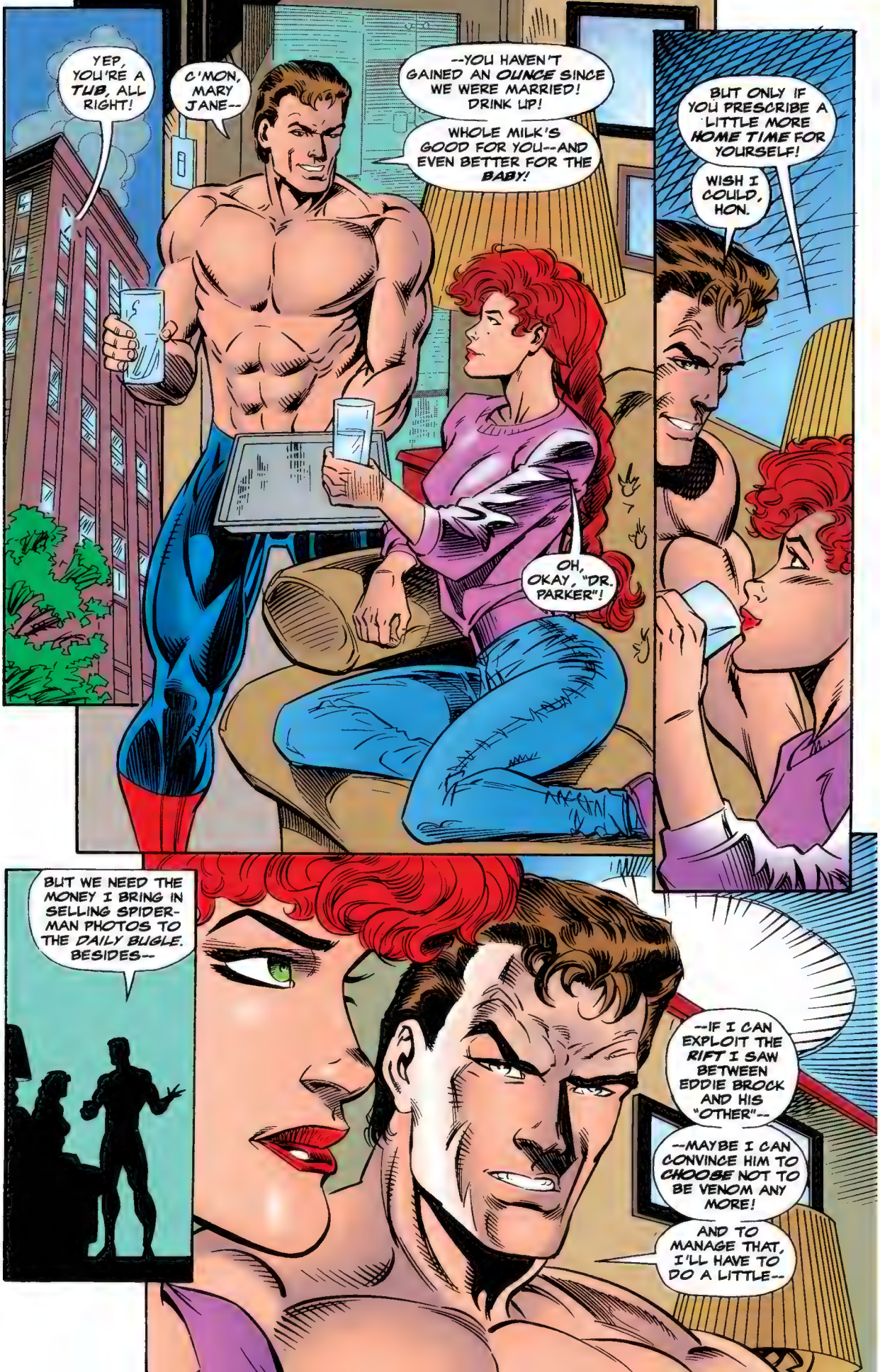

TWELVE DOWN, THIRTY OR FORTY TO GO!
sigh
GONNA BE A LONG DAY...!
AWRIGHT! FROM UP HERE, I CAN GET A CLEAR SHOT AT--
--huh? A SHADOW! FROM--
"--ABOVE?"
KRUNNG
yeep!
WE THOUGHT WE'D RETURN YOUR LITTLE MACHINE--
--BEFORE IT COULD FALL ON ANY INNOCENT BYSTANDERS!
VENOM?! ah, geez!
LONG DAY JUST GOT LONGER!


IF HE'LL JUST BEHAVE 'TIL I CAN GET FREE...!
UNCARING NEANDERTHALS LIKE YOU TEND TO HAVE TINY BRAINS!
PLIP!
YUM!
:smack:
WE LOOOOOVE HORS D'OEUVRES!

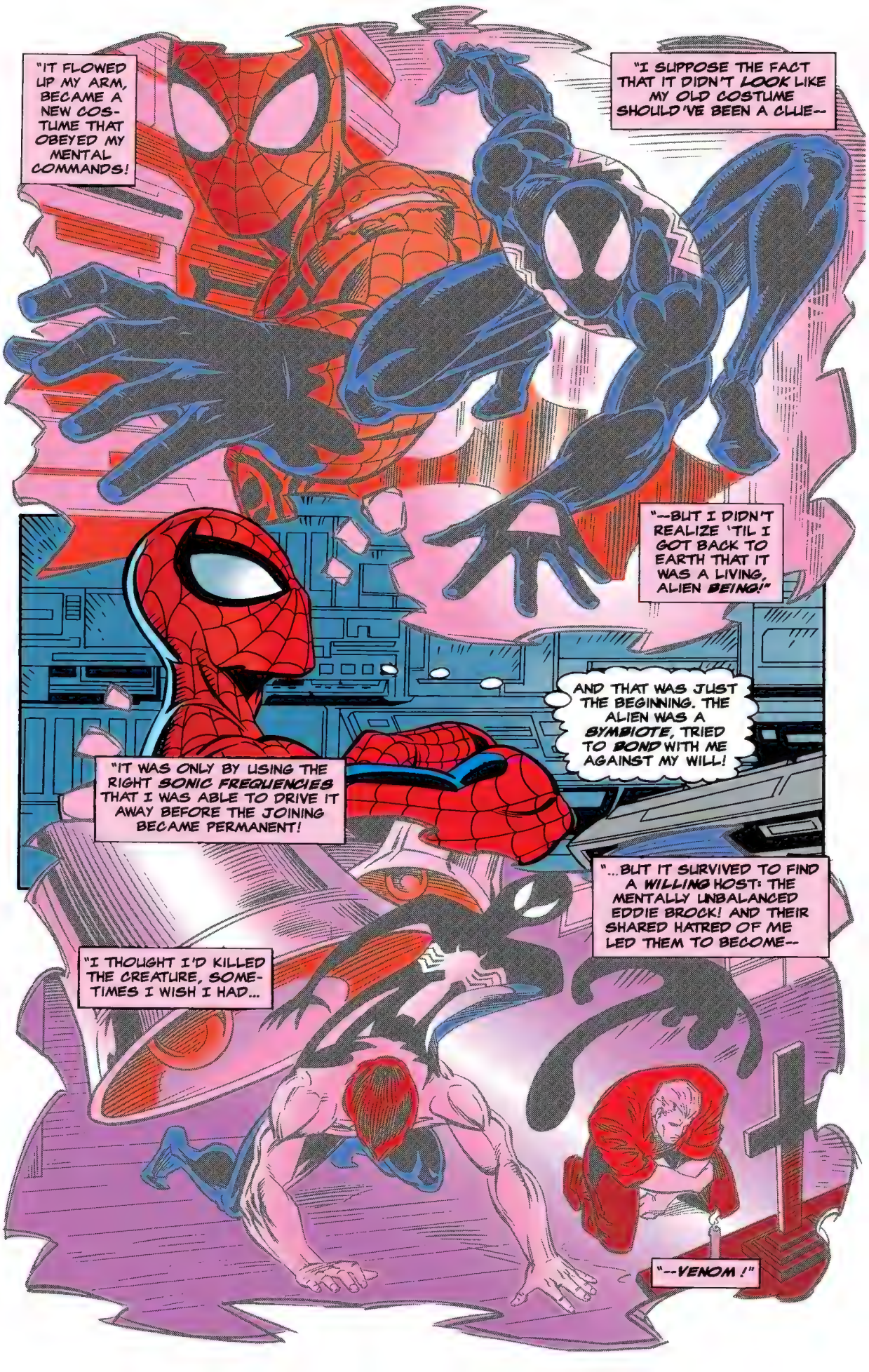

NO! GOTTA GET OVER THERE BEFORE--
WAIT!
I--I DIDN'T SAY KILL HIM!
WHAT?
I...I THOUGHT IT?
ARE YOU SURE...?
WHAT THE--!?
uh-oh! SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING!
GO! SPERZEL'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN THIS! I'LL DO WHAT I CAN!
RIGHT!
MACHINE ACTIVATING !?
TIK-TAKKA-TEK!
SHUT IT OFF! NOW!
YOU KIDDIN'?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I TURNED IT ON!
whoa! TALK ABOUT BEGINNER'S LUCK!
VRRAK


VENOM AND YOUR BUDDIES TOOK OFF!
BUT WHAT TO DO WITH YOU...?
SLOWLY, SPIDER-MAN'S FINGERS CURL TOWARDS HIS PALM...
...WHERE THEY LIGHTLY TAP THE TRIGGER OF HIS WEB-SHOOTER!
SIRENS HEADED THIS WAY!
POLICE CAN HANDLE IT NOW!
NUTS! FIGURED VENOM'D BE LONG GONE--
--BUT THOSE LUDDITES ARE NOWHERE IN SIGHT, EITHER!
I MAY HAVE A CLUE, THOUGH: I'VE HEARD THE WORD "SPERZEL" BEFORE!
JUST CAN'T PLACE IT!
HARD TO CONCENTRATE, AFTER WHAT I SAW!
VENOM'S HESITATION IS SOMETHING NEW, AND COULD BE BIG!
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO PUT VENOM COMPLETELY OUT OF BUSINESS BEFORE! BUT NOW--


--THERE MAY BE A WAY TO MAKE EDDIE BROCK DO IT!
THIS IS BAD.
OUR EFFICIENCY AS A PROTECTOR IS BEING COMPROMISED!
WE...
...I...
...HAVE TO BE STRONG-- CONFIDENT! WAFFLING ISN'T MY WAY! AND YET...
...I HAVE QUESTIONS. PERHAPS IF I WERE TO TALK TO SOMEONE--
--WHAT?
YES! YOU'RE RIGHT!
I DON'T NEED ANYONE ELSE! I'M EDWARD ALLAN BROCK! AND BY HEAVEN, I AM THE MASTER OF MY OWN FATE!
AREN'T I...?


YEP, YOU'RE A TUB, ALL RIGHT!
C'MON, MARY JANE--
--YOU HAVEN'T GAINED AN OUNCE SINCE WE WERE MARRIED! DRINK UP!
WHOLE MILK'S GOOD FOR YOU--AND EVEN BETTER FOR THE BABY!
OH, OKAY, "DR. PARKER"!
BUT ONLY IF YOU PRESCRIBE A LITTLE MORE HOME TIME FOR YOURSELF!
WISH I COULD, HON.
BUT WE NEED THE MONEY I BRING IN SELLING SPIDER-MAN PHOTOS TO THE DAILY BUGLE. BESIDES--
--IF I CAN EXPLOIT THE RIFT I SAW BETWEEN EDDIE BROCK AND HIS "OTHER"--
--MAYBE I CAN CONVINCE HIM TO CHOOSE NOT TO BE VENOM ANY MORE!
AND TO MANAGE THAT, I'LL HAVE TO DO A LITTLE--


"--RESEARCH!"
YEAH, REED USETA DO A LOT O' THAT RESEARCH STUFF, TOO!
I CAN IMAGINE! THANKS FOR LETTING ME TAP THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S DATABASE, BEN.
NO PROBLEM. JUST GO TO THE MAIN MENU AND CLICK ON "SPIDER-MAN," KID.
UNFORTUNATELY, THIS MISSION REVIEW ISN'T TELLING ME A LOT I DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW! AFTER ALL--
"--I WAS THERE WITH THE FF ON BATTLE-WORLD, DURING THE GREAT SUPER HERO WAR!
"WHEN MY COSTUME GOT DAMAGED, THE HULK TOLD ME THERE WAS A MACHINE THAT COULD GENERATE A NEW ONE BY THOUGHT ALONE!*
*SEE MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #8. --TOM
"BUT WHEN I FOUND WHAT I ASSUMED WAS THE RIGHT MACHINE, AND ST!CK MY HEAD IN--
"--THIS BLACK BLOB POPPED OUT!

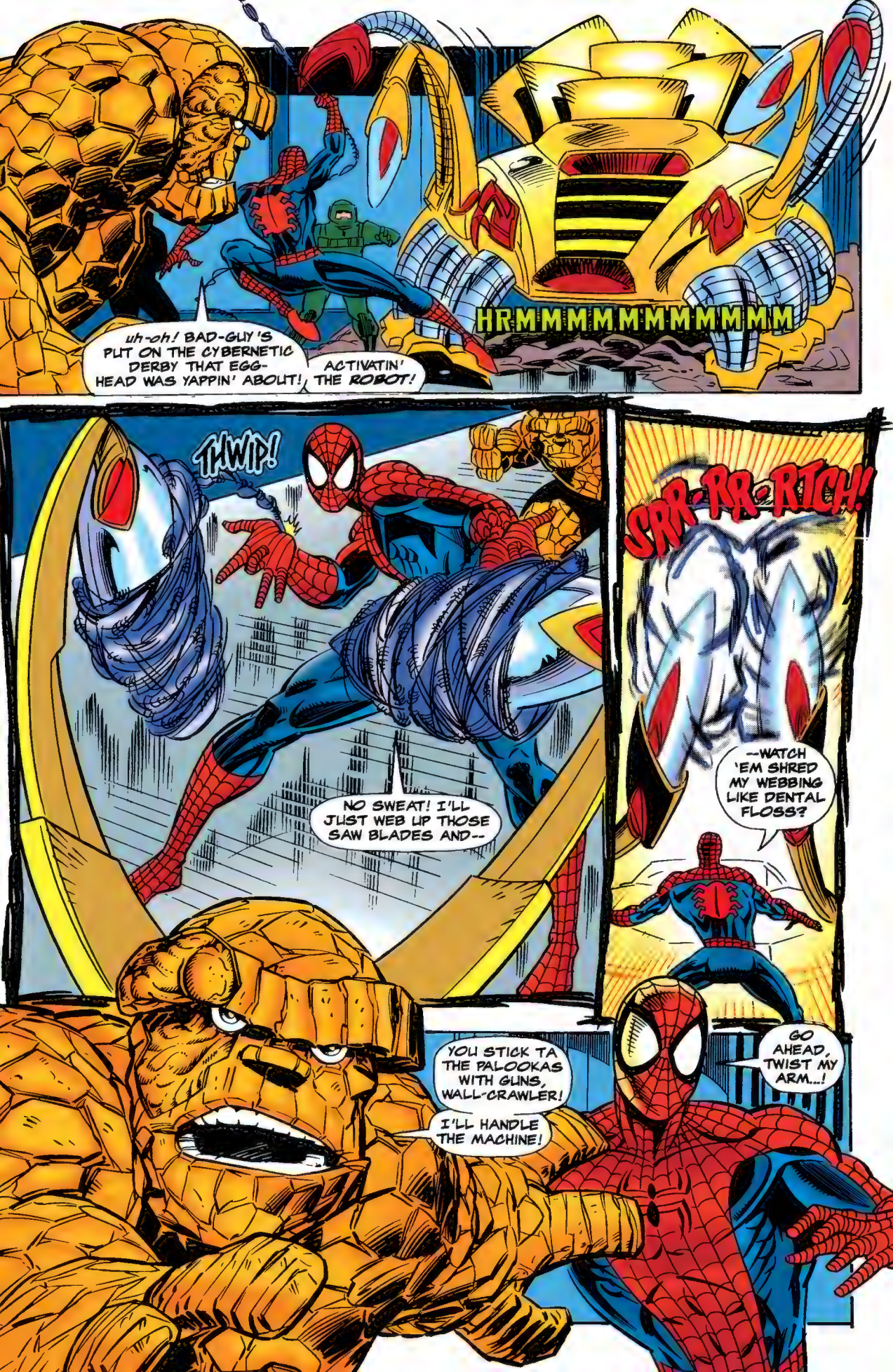

"IT FLOWED UP MY ARM, BECAME A NEW COSTUME THAT OBEYED MY MENTAL COMMANDS!
"I SUPPOSE THE FACT THAT IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE MY OLD COSTUME SHOULD'VE BEEN A CLUE--
"--BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE 'TIL I GOT BACK TO EARTH THAT IT WAS A LIVING, ALIEN BEING!"
AND THAT WAS JUST THE BEGINNING. THE ALIEN WAS A SYMBIOTE, TRIED TO BOND WITH ME AGAINST MY WILL!
"IT WAS ONLY BY USING THE RIGHT SONIC FREQUENCIES THAT I WAS ABLE TO DRIVE IT AWAY BEFORE THE JOINING BECAME PERMANENT!
"...BUT IT SURVIVED TO FIND A WILLING HOST: THE MENTALLY UNBALANCED EDDIE BROCK! AND THEIR SHARED HATRED OF ME LED THEM TO BECOME--
"I THOUGHT I'D KILLED THE CREATURE, SOMETIMES I WISH I HAD...
"--VENOM!"


BROCK SEEMS TO BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT HIS COMMITMENT TO THE ALIEN. AND IF I CAN FIND THE RIGHT MENTAL "CROWBAR," MAYBE I CAN WIDEN THAT SPLIT!
THANKS, BEN. I'LL BRING THE PROGRAM BACK TO ITS MENU AND--
KLIK-KLIK!
WELL, THAT DIDN'T TEACH ME ANYTHING NEW, BUT IT DID SOLIDIFY MY FOCUS.
--WAITASEC! TWO ENTRIES ABOVE MINE! "SPERZEL"?
SPERZEL
SPHINX
SPIDER-MAN
THAT'S THE WORD THOSE NEO-LUDDITES USED!
YA MEAN ANTON SPERZEL? HE'S A CYBERNETICS ENGINEER REED USETA CONSULT WITH.
THAT'S IT! WE TALKED ABOUT HIM IN PHYSICS CLASS! HE'S SUPPOSED TO DEMONSTRATE A NEW INVENTION ON THUR--
--TODAY!


WHAT DO YOU SAY, BEN? FEEL LIKE A LITTLE CLOBBERIN' TIME?
HEY, DOES CLINTON LIKE CHEESE-BURGERS?
MOMENTS LATER...
I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, BEN. THOSE LUDDITES WERE PRETTY FANATICAL, AND THIS COULD GET NASTY.
I SURE FEEL BETTER NOW THAT THERE'S--
--TWO OF US!


DOWNTOWN; THE STANLEY AUDITORIUM.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... DR. ANTON SPERZEL!
WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SHOW YOU, MY FELLOW SCIENTISTS, IS THE NEXT STEP IN VIRTUAL REALITY!
BY WEARING THIS HELMET, AN OPERATOR CAN "SEE" THROUGH SENSORS ATTACHED TO THE MARK-7 DIAGNOSTIC DRONE BEHIND ME.
HE OR SHE WILL THEN BE ABLE TO MANEUVER THAT VEHICLE, BY THOUGHT ALONE, INTO THE MOST HAZARDOUS OF ENVIRONMENTS; TOXIC WASTE, NUCLEAR MELTDOWN, EVEN AN ACTIVE VOLCANO!
ALL WITH A DEGREE OF SAFETY HERETO-FORE ONLY DREAMT OF!
AND WHEN DOES THE DREAM BECOME A NIGHTMARE?
HOW LONG BEFORE SUCH "PROGRESS" IS USED TO CONTROL PEOPLE?
WHA-- ARE YOU MAD!?


YEAH-- VERY!
NOW GET--
KUNCH!
BACK!
OH, MY--!
MOVE THOSE CIVILIANS TO SAFETY, ON THE DOUBLE!
ME AN' THE WEBSLINGER'LL TAKE CARE O' THE REST!
TWO OF THEM? WELL...
...WE'RE NOT ALONE THIS TIME, EITHER!

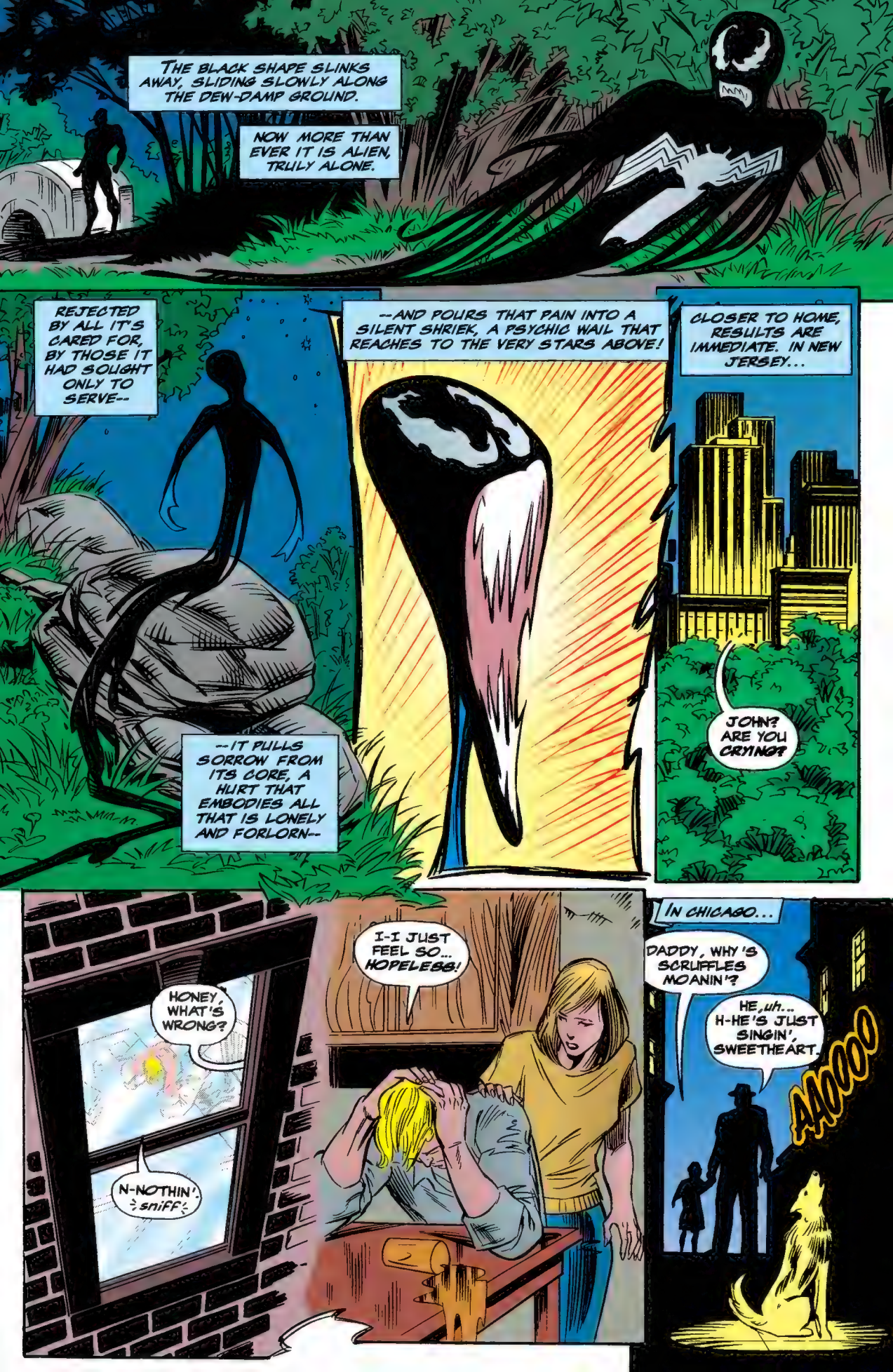

uh-oh! BAD-GUY'S PUT ON THE CYBERNETIC DERBY THAT EGG-HEAD WAS YAPPIN' ABOUT!
ACTIVATIN' THE ROBOT!
HRMMMMMMMMMMMM
THWIP!
NO SWEAT! I'LL JUST WEB UP THOSE SAW BLADES AND--
SRR-RR-RTCH!
--WATCH 'EM SHRED MY WEBBING LIKE DENTAL FLOSS?
YOU STICK TA THE PALOOKAS WITH GUNS, WALL-CRAWLER!
I'LL HANDLE THE MACHINE!
GO AHEAD, TWIST MY ARM...!

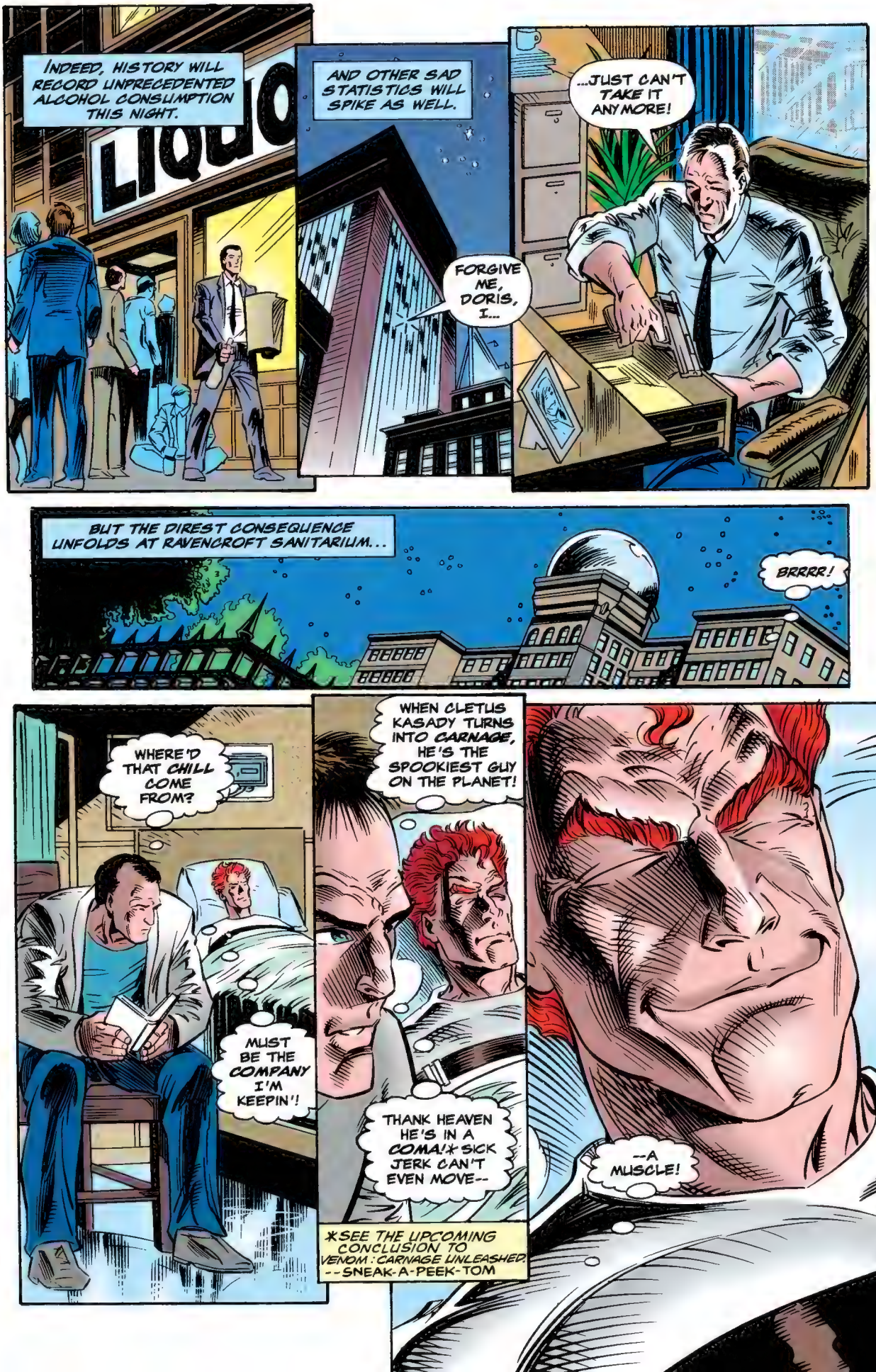

ALL I NEED IS TWO SECONDS TA--
--OW! BLADES MUST BE A NEW SYNTHETIC! CHIPPIN' EVEN MY ROCKY HIDE!
BETTER MAKE THAT THREE SECONDS...!
PERHAPS THE BEST WAY TO KILL THE SERPENT OF TECHNOLOGY, DR. SPERZEL--
--IS TO REMOVE ITS HEAD!
NOOOOOO--!
SO TELL US...
!?!
...WHAT PART OF "NO" DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
:gulp:

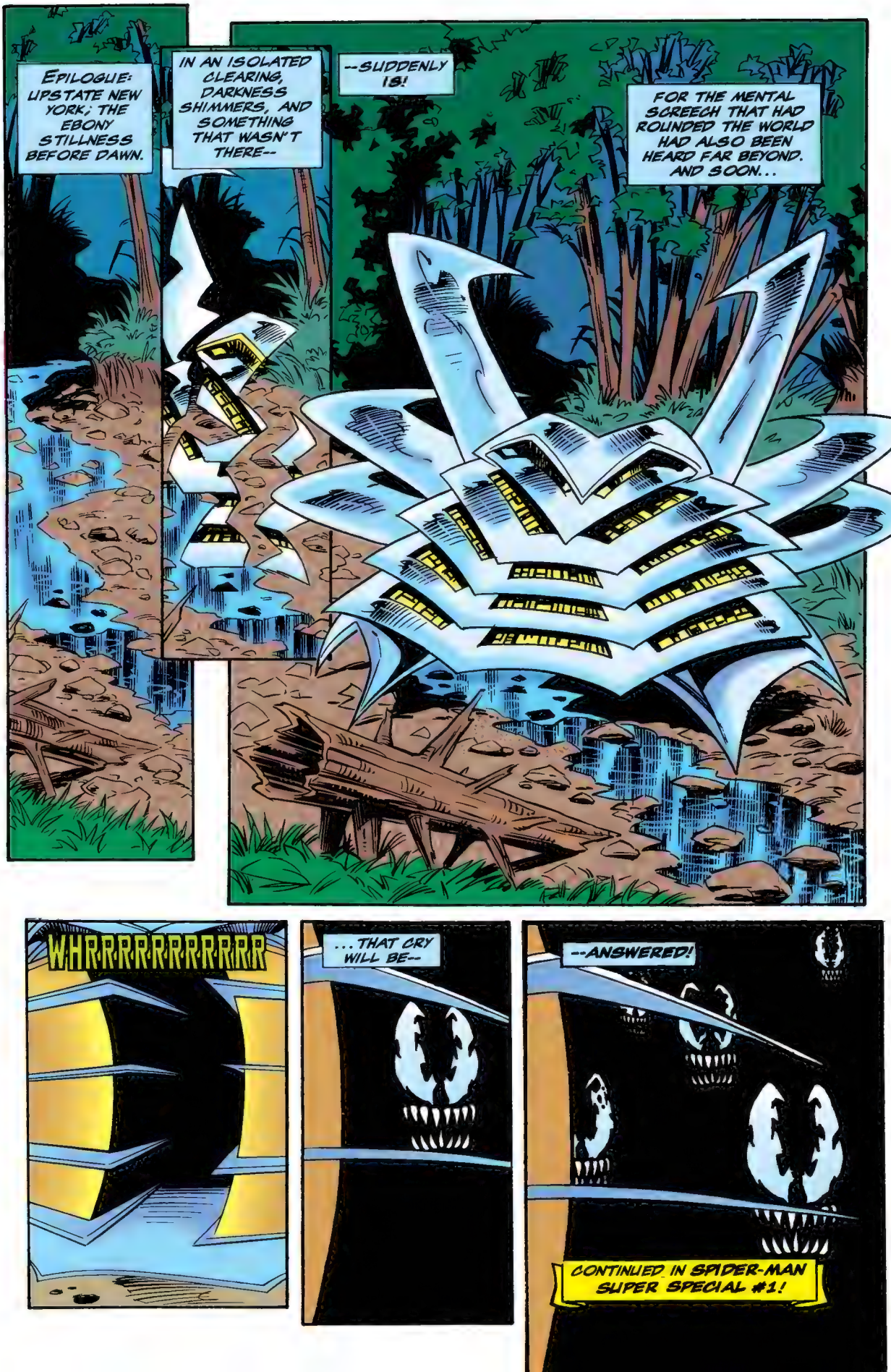

VENOM? BUT HOW--?
WE FOLLOWED YOU!
W-WE THOUGHT...IF WE COULD TALK..
HE'S UNSURE, BATTLING THE ALIEN'S INFLUENCE!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
EDDIE! LISTEN TO ME!
IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT? THAT MONSTER YOU WEAR ISN'T EVEN HUMAN! HOW CAN YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S DOING TO YOU--
--HOW MUCH CONTROL IT HAS?
--IT'S REALLY YOUR COSTUME THAT'S INSANE?
HIT A NERVE!
THINK, EDDIE! WHAT IF YOU'RE REALLY THE VICTIM! THE INNOCENT!
WHAT IF--
HE'S STOPPED COLD!


AND WITHOUT VENOM TO WORRY ABOUT, I CAN FINISH OFF THESE LAST TECHNOPHOBES!
hnmf
SPIDEY BOPPED THE GOON WITH THE CONTROL HELMET!
ROBOT'S HESITATIN'!
'BOT?
MEET--
--FIST!
KABRASH!
LUDDITE SCREAMED! FEEDBACK MUST'VE OVERHEATED THE HELMET CIRCUITS!
HE'S JUST UNCONSCIOUS...
...BUT VENOM USED THE DISTRACTION TO ESCAPE!
LOOKING FOR HIM WOULD BE USELESS.
I CAN ONLY HOPE MY PSYCHOLOGICAL "RIGHT CROSS"--


"--HAD SOME EFFECT!"
SPIDER-MAN HAS EVERY REASON TO LIE, AND YET...HIS WORDS HAVE A SHADOW OF TRUTH.
HOW MUCH OF WHAT WE'VE BECOME HAS BEEN OUR CHOICE, AND HOW MUCH...
...YOURS?
I NEED TO THINK, TO MAKE A DECISION. PLEASE...
...LEAVE ME.
NO, I MEAN COMPLETELY!
I CAN'T RISK YOUR TOUCH!
CAN'T BE SWAYED BY YOUR BIAS!
GO AWAY, BLAST IT! ALL OF YOU!
CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND--?
I DON'T WANT YOU NOW!
SNEP!


THE BLACK SHAPE SLINKS AWAY, SLIDING SLOWLY ALONG THE DEW-DAMP GROUND.
NOW MORE THAN EVER IT IS ALIEN, TRULY ALONE.
REJECTED BY ALL IT'S CARED FOR, BY THOSE IT HAD SOUGHT ONLY TO SERVE--
--IT PULLS SORROW FROM ITS CORE, A HURT THAT EMBODIES ALL THAT IS LONELY AND FORLORN--
--AND POURS THAT PAIN INTO A SILENT SHRIEK, A PSYCHIC WAIL THAT REACHES TO THE VERY STARS ABOVE!
CLOSER TO HOME, RESULTS ARE IMMEDIATE. IN NEW JERSEY...
JOHN? ARE YOU CRYING?
HONEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
N-NOTHIN'. sniff
I-I JUST FEEL SO... HOPELESS!
IN CHICAGO...
DADDY, WHY'S SCRUFFLES MOANIN'?
HE, uh... H-HE'S JUST SINGIN', SWEETHEART.
AAOOO

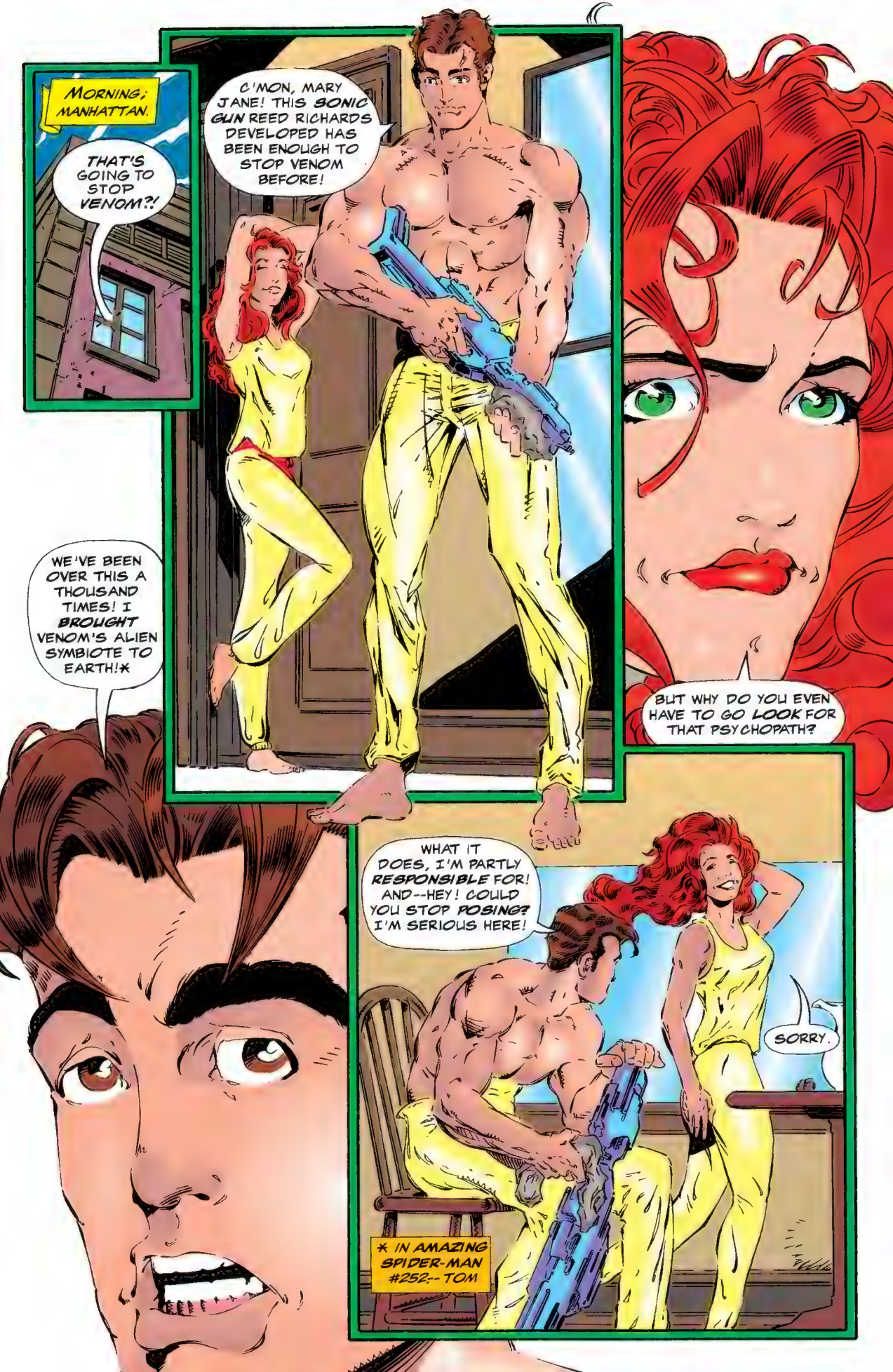

INDEED, HISTORY WILL RECORD UNPRECEDENTED ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION THIS NIGHT.
AND OTHER SAD STATISTICS WILL SPIKE AS WELL.
FORGIVE ME, DORIS, I...
...JUST CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
BUT THE DIREST CONSEQUENCE UNFOLDS AT RAVENCROFT SANITARIUM...
BRRRR!
WHERE'D THAT CHILL COME FROM?
MUST BE THE COMPANY I'M KEEPIN'!
WHEN CLETUS KASADY TURNS INTO CARNAGE, HE'S THE SPOOKIEST GUY ON THE PLANET!
THANK HEAVEN HE'S IN A COMA!* SICK JERK CAN'T EVEN MOVE--
--A MUSCLE!
*SEE THE UPCOMING CONCLUSION TO VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED. --SNEAK-A-PEEK-TOM


EPILOGUE: UPSTATE NEW YORK; THE EBONY STILLNESS BEFORE DAWN.
IN AN ISOLATED CLEARING, DARKNESS SHIMMERS, AND SOMETHING THAT WASN'T THERE--
--SUDDENLY IS!
FOR THE MENTAL SCREECH THAT HAD ROUNDED THE WORLD HAD ALSO BEEN HEARD FAR BEYOND. AND SOON...
WHRRRRRRRRRR
...THAT CRY WILL BE--
--ANSWERED!
CONTINUED IN SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!

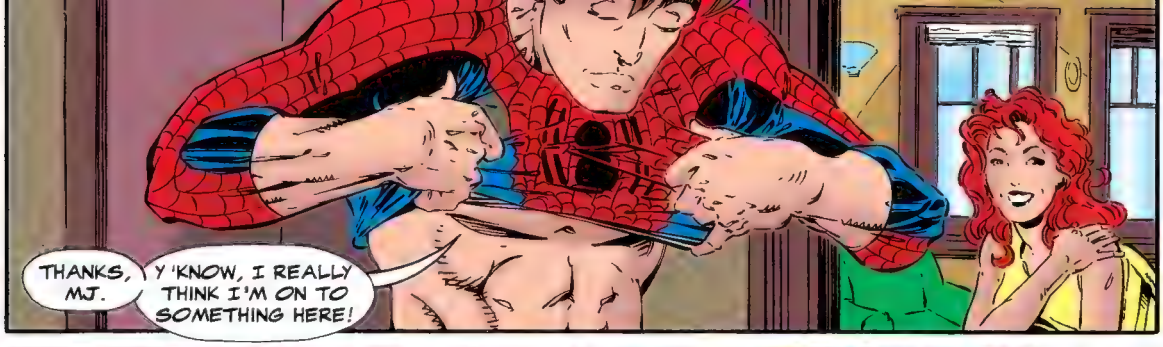

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SUPER SPECIAL
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1995
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
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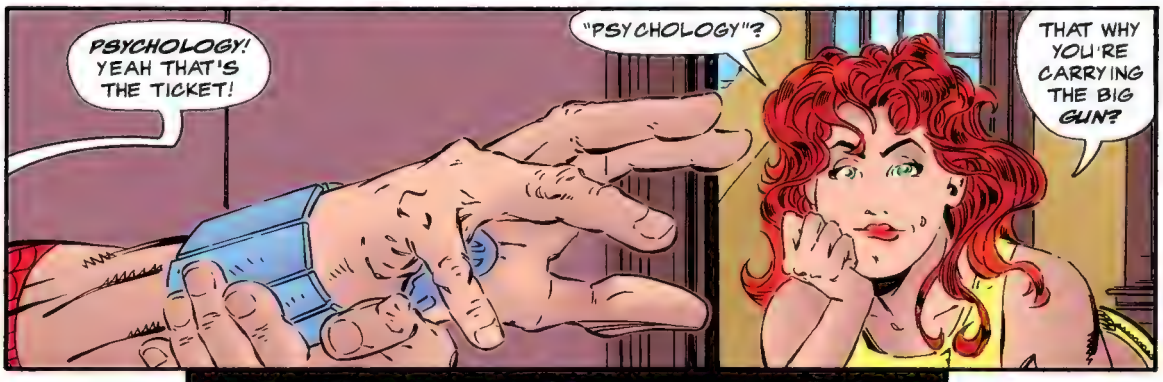

LONG ISLAND.
THE HOUR BEFORE DAWN.
SCIEN
EXPO
MAY 15-20
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT IN, FELLA, BUT WE WERE WARNED TO WATCH FOR TERRORISTS!
PLEASE--!
"PLEASE"? YOU THINK THAT MEANS JACK?
YOU'RE GONNA BE ONE POLITE CORPSE, PAL!
BDAM! BDAM!
SHLP
SHLP
SHLP
WHAT THE--?!
PLEASE...
GHHLLGK--!

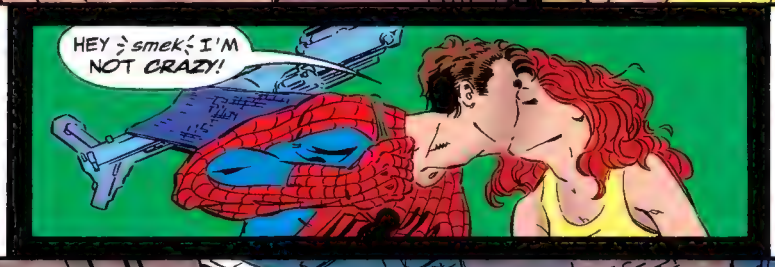

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...HELP ME!!
PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES CHAPTER TWO:
LURKERS!
DAVID MICHELINIE writer
JOE St. PIERRE penciler
GREG ADAMS inker
OAKLEY / NJQ letterers
TOM SMITH colorist
TOM BREVOORT editor
DANNY FINGEROTH group editor
BOB BUDIANSKY editor in chief


MORNING, MANHATTAN.
THAT'S GOING TO STOP VENOM?!
C'MON, MARY JANE! THIS SONIC GUN REED RICHARDS DEVELOPED HAS BEEN ENOUGH TO STOP VENOM BEFORE!
BUT WHY DO YOU EVEN HAVE TO GO LOOK FOR THAT PSYCHOPATH?
WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS A THOUSAND TIMES! I BROUGHT VENOM'S ALIEN SYMBIOTE TO EARTH!*
WHAT IT DOES, I'M PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR! AND--HEY! COULD YOU STOP POSING? I'M SERIOUS HERE!
SORRY.
* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #252:-- TOM


THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL HIGH-TECH THEFTS LATELY, LIKE THE ONE AT THAT SCIENCE EXPO LAST NIGHT.
AND REPORTS HINT THAT THE CULPRIT COULD BE VENOM!
BUT A FEW DAYS AGO,* I SAW SOMETHING SPOOKY: EDDIE BROCK AND THE SYMBIOTE WERE ARGUING, AT ODDS!
IF I CAN EXPLOIT THAT GAP, EVEN WIDEN IT, MAYBE I CAN GET EDDIE TO CHOOSE NOT TO BE VENOM ANY MORE!
* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1.-- TOM
WELL, IF YOU HAVE TO GO, BETTER PUT THIS ON.
DON'T WANT TO SEE MY HUSBAND ON THE NOON NEWS IN HIS JAMMIES!


THANKS, MJ.
Y'KNOW, I REALLY THINK I'M ON TO SOMETHING HERE!

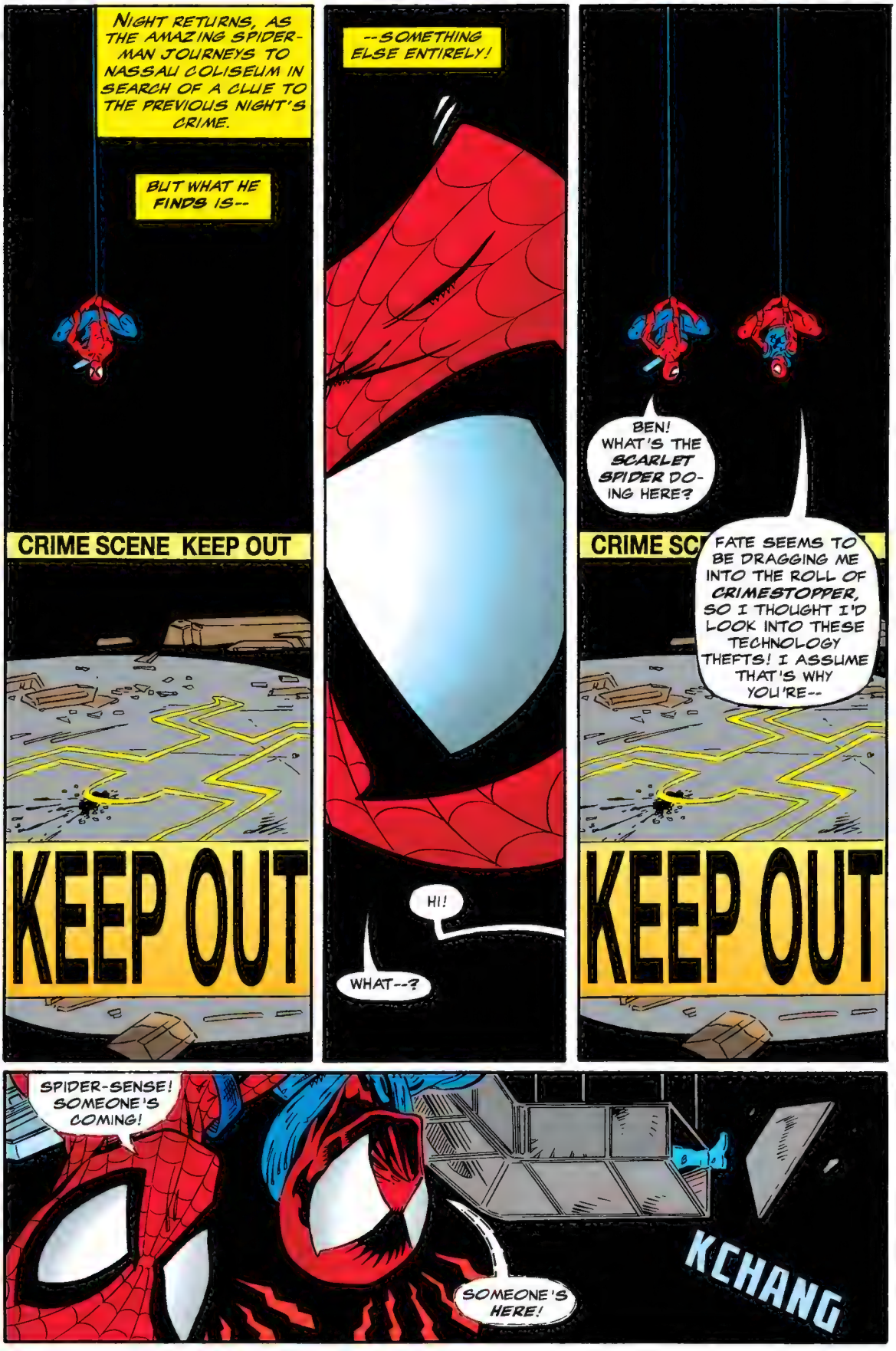

PSYCHOLOGY! YEAH THAT'S THE TICKET!
"PSYCHOLOGY"?
THAT WHY YOU'RE CARRYING THE BIG GUN?

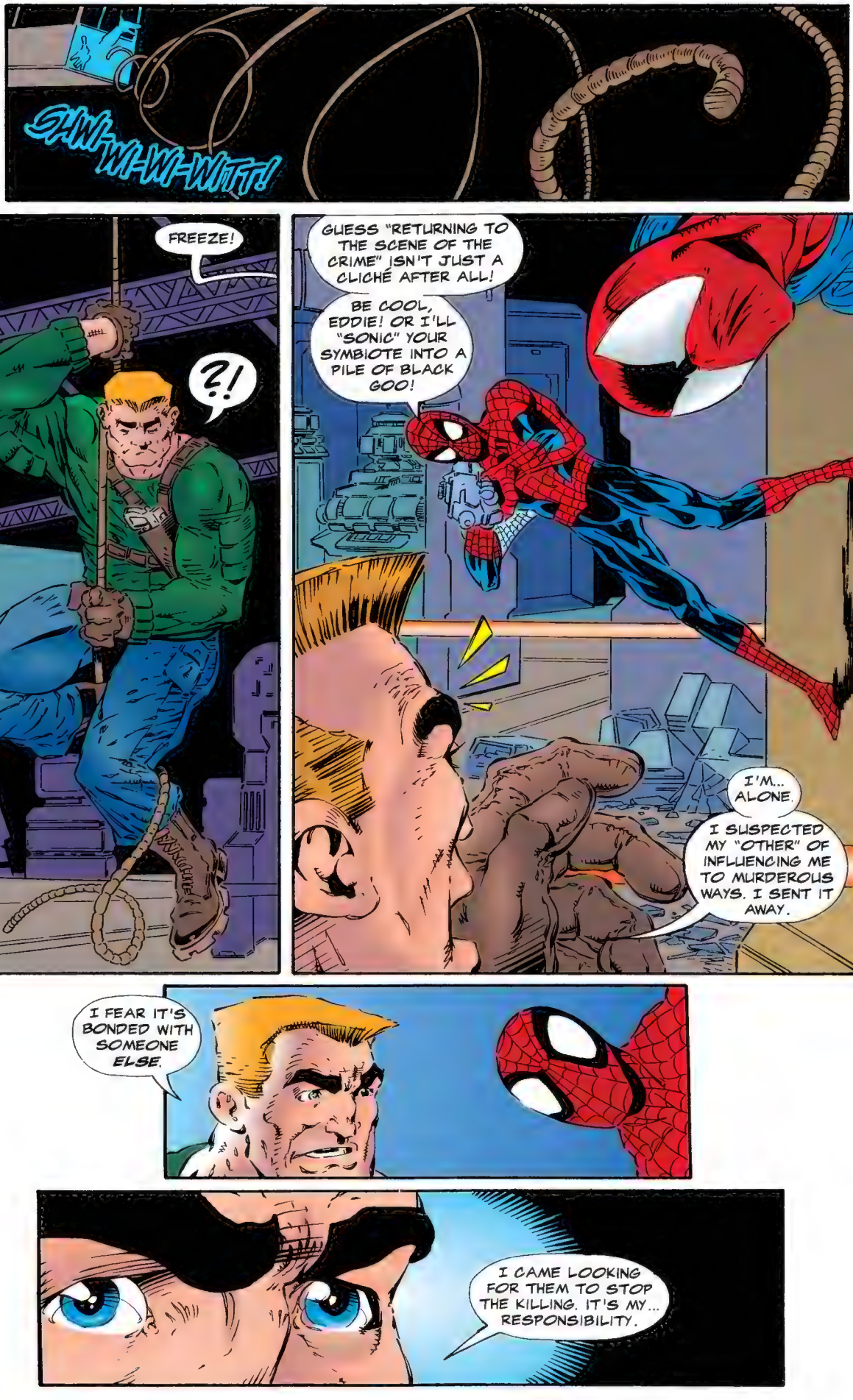

HEY ;smek; I'M NOT CRAZY!

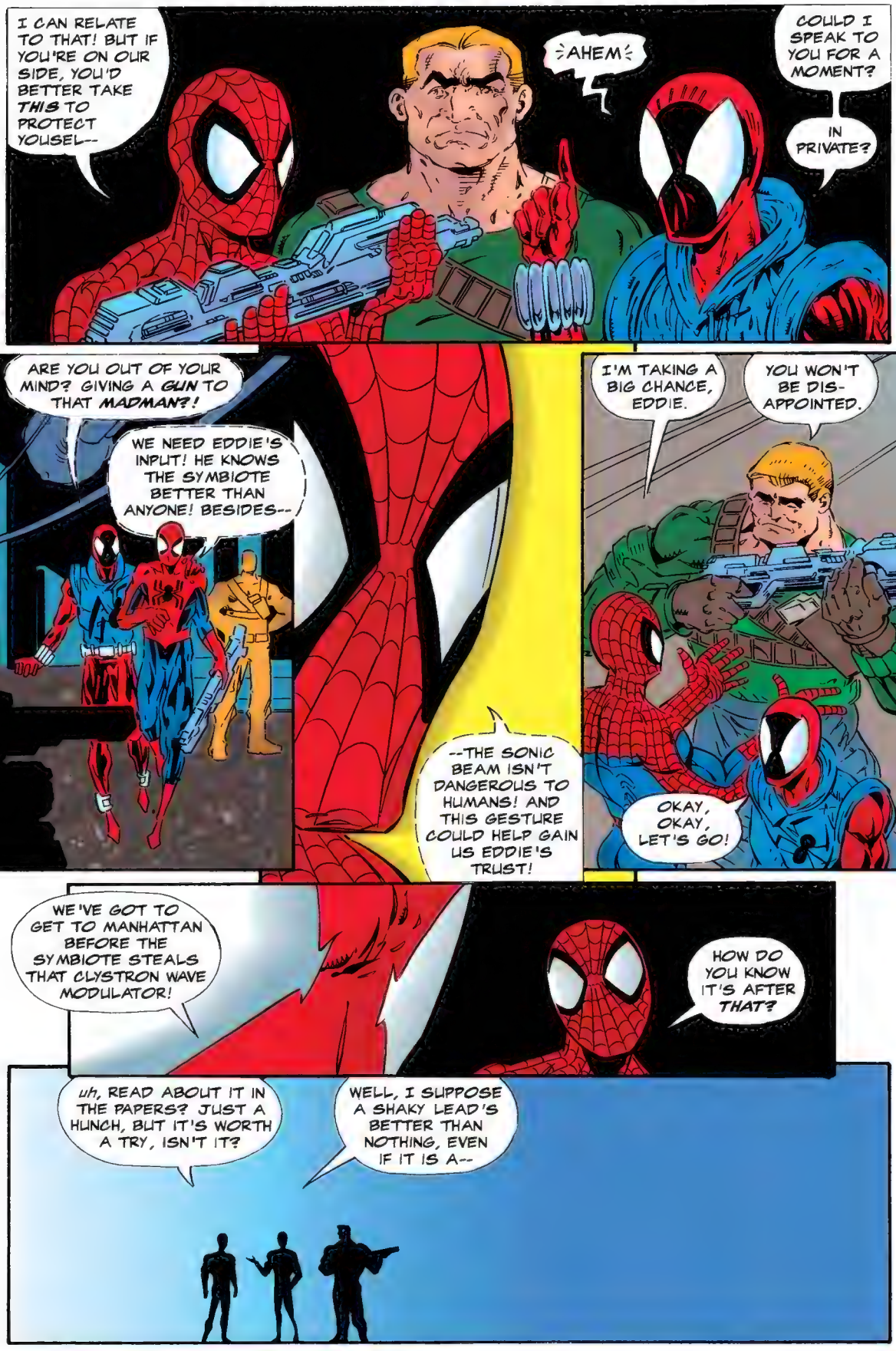

I KNOW, PETER, I JUST HOPE YOU DON'T FORGET--
--THAT THE MAN YOU'RE GOING AFTER IS!


AFTERNOON; RAVENCROFT SANITARIUM.
BREET BREET BREET
PANIC ALARM! TRIGGERED BY--
--OH LORD! SEAL THE BUILDING!
DR. WINTERS! WHAT--?
HE MOVED.
HE--? COME NOW, DOCTOR! CLETUS KASADY'S ABOUT AS ACTIVE AS A LUMP OF BORON!
HE'S BEEN IN AN IRREVERSIBLE COMA FOR DAYS!*
* SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF VENOM: CARNAGE UNLEASHED, TO BE EXACT!--TOM
THEN WHY DID MOTION SENSORS TRIP THE AUTO-ALARMS?
AUTOMATIC RESPONSE--MUSCLE SPASMS!
BUT...
...CAN WE TAKE THAT RISK? WE BOTH KNOW ALL TOO WELL--
--WHAT KASADY IS--
--INSIDE!

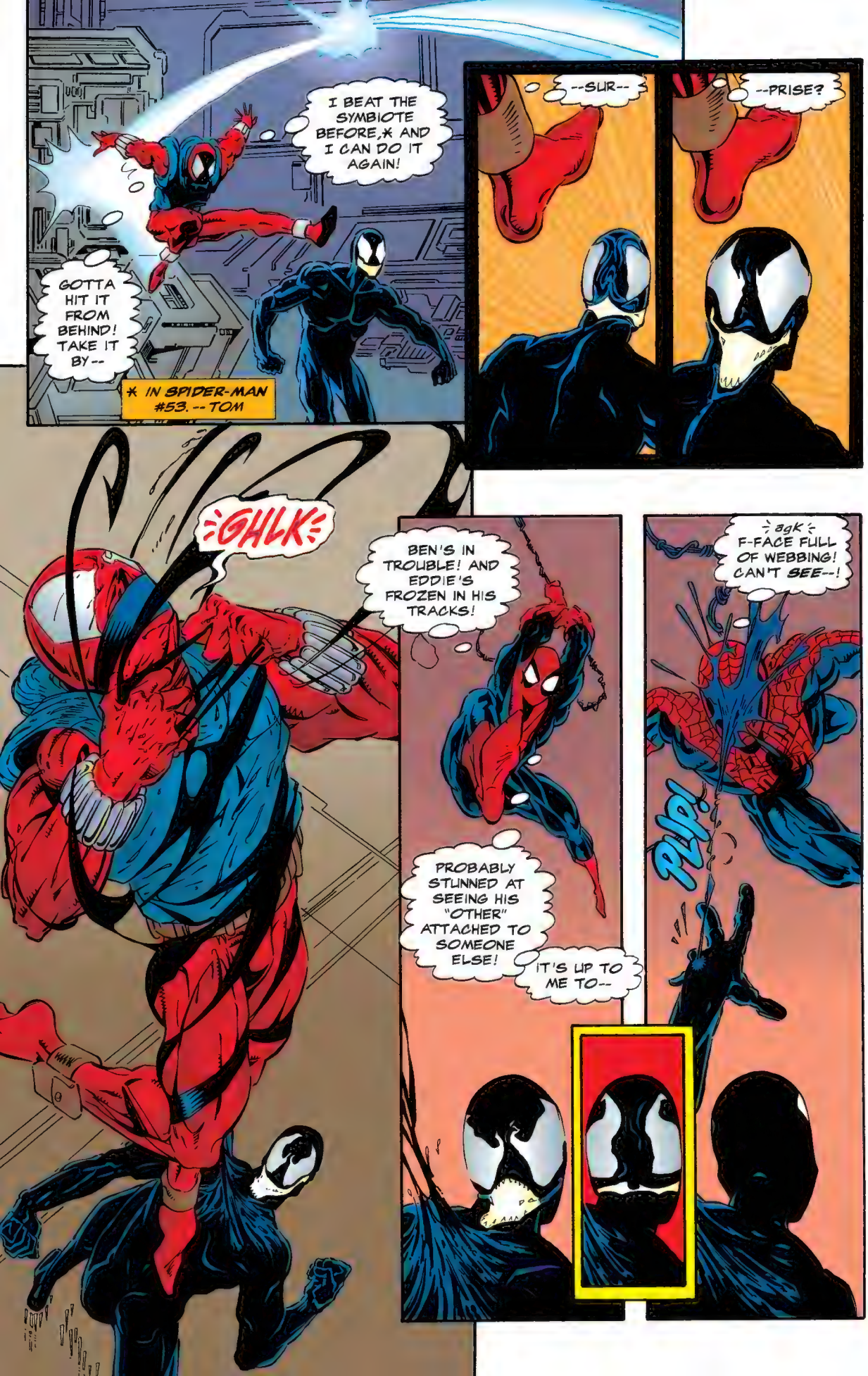

"HE HAS A MONSTER IN HIS BLOOD! IF IT GETS OUT, IF HE TURNS INTO THE CREATURE CALLED CARNAGE AGAIN--"
--HE'LL SLAUGHTER US ALL!
HE'D KILL EVERY SOUL IN THIS BUILDING IN A--
÷gasp÷
HE WINKED! THEO, H-H-HE WINKED AT ME!
GET HOLD OF YOURSELF, DOCTOR! THE MAN'S A TURNIP!
HE CAN'T WINK AT ANYONE!
ARE YOU NUTS?
AS GOD IS MY WITNESS, THEO...
...I HOPE SO!


NIGHT RETURNS, AS THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN JOURNEYS TO NASSAU COLISEUM IN SEARCH OF A CLUE TO THE PREVIOUS NIGHT'S CRIME.
BUT WHAT HE FINDS IS--
CRIME SCENE KEEP OUT
KEEP OUT
--SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY!
HI!
WHAT--?
BEN! WHAT'S THE SCARLET SPIDER DOING HERE?
CRIME SC
FATE SEEMS TO BE DRAGGING ME INTO THE ROLL OF CRIMESTOPPER, SO I THOUGHT I'D LOOK INTO THESE TECHNOLOGY THEFTS! I ASSUME THAT'S WHY YOU'RE--
KEEP OUT
SPIDER-SENSE! SOMEONE'S COMING!
SOMEONE'S HERE!
KCHANG

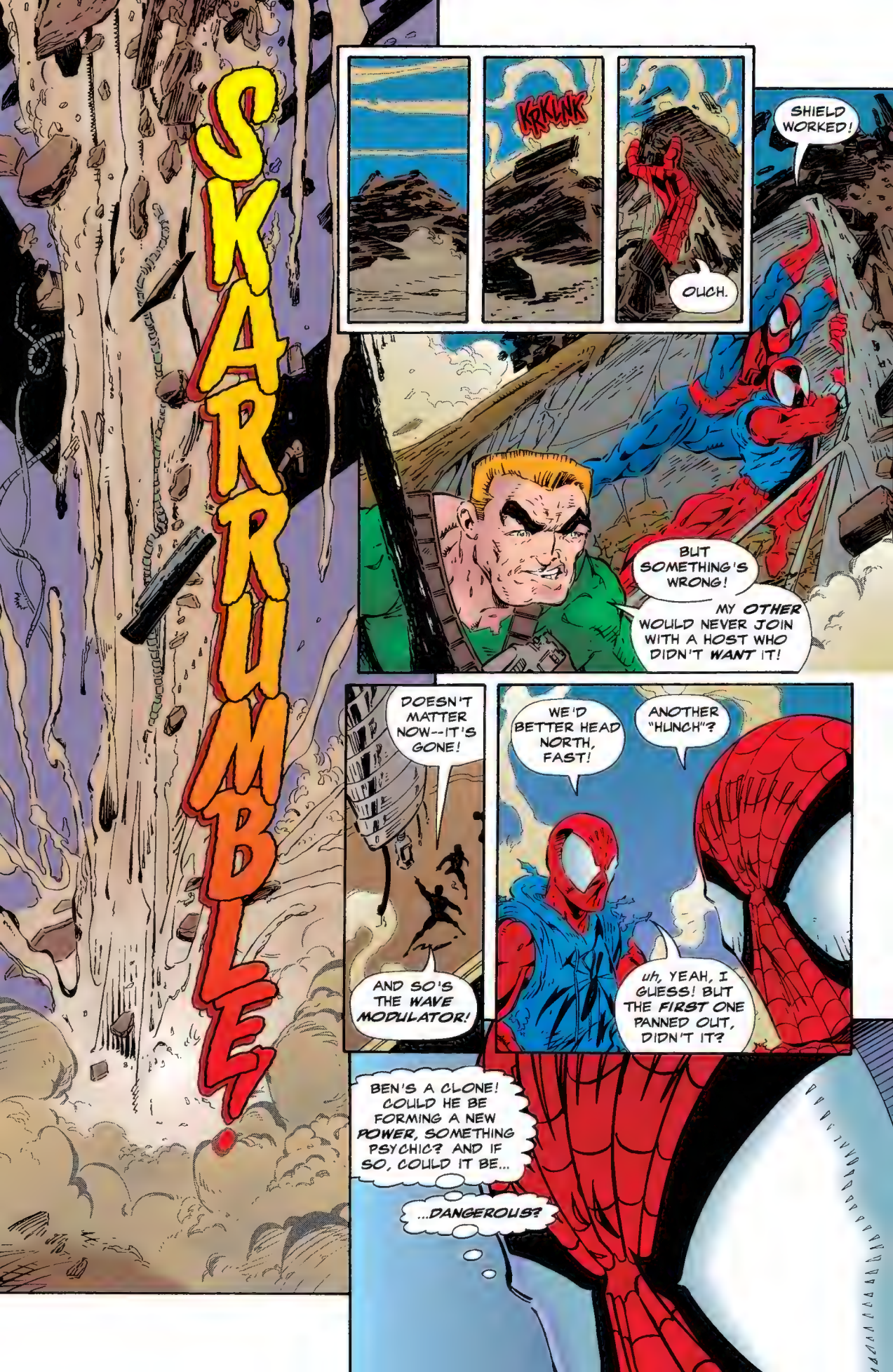

SHWI-WI-WITT!
FREEZE!
?!
GUESS "RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME" ISN'T JUST A CLICHÉ AFTER ALL!
BE COOL, EDDIE! OR I'LL "SONIC" YOUR SYMBIOTE INTO A PILE OF BLACK GOO!
I'M... ALONE.
I SUSPECTED MY "OTHER" OF INFLUENCING ME TO MURDEROUS WAYS. I SENT IT AWAY.
I FEAR IT'S BONDED WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
I CAME LOOKING FOR THEM TO STOP THE KILLING. IT'S MY... RESPONSIBILITY.


I CAN RELATE TO THAT! BUT IF YOU'RE ON OUR SIDE, YOU'D BETTER TAKE THIS TO PROTECT YOUSEL--
:AHEM:
COULD I SPEAK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT?
IN PRIVATE?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? GIVING A GUN TO THAT MADMAN?!
WE NEED EDDIE'S INPUT! HE KNOWS THE SYMBIOTE BETTER THAN ANYONE! BESIDES--
--THE SONIC BEAM ISN'T DANGEROUS TO HUMANS! AND THIS GESTURE COULD HELP GAIN US EDDIE'S TRUST!
I'M TAKING A BIG CHANCE, EDDIE.
YOU WON'T BE DIS-APPOINTED.
OKAY, OKAY, LET'S GO!
WE'VE GOT TO GET TO MANHATTAN BEFORE THE SYMBIOTE STEALS THAT CLYSTRON WAVE MODULATOR!
HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S AFTER THAT?
uh, READ ABOUT IT IN THE PAPERS? JUST A HUNCH, BUT IT'S WORTH A TRY, ISN'T IT?
WELL, I SUPPOSE A SHAKY LEAD'S BETTER THAN NOTHING, EVEN IF IT IS A--


"--WILD GOOSE CHASE!"
THIS THE LAB WHERE YOU SAW THE MODULATOR?*
YEAH!
* IN ASM SUPER SIZE SPECIAL #1.
GUESS IT'S TIME TO REVISE MY DEFINITION OF "GOOSE CHASE"...!
BODIES, AND PIECES OF BODIES! BUT WHERE--
OH.
"THERE!"
AND IT'S ALREADY GOT THE WAVE BOOSTER
NOT YET! THAT'S THE CLYSTRON MODULATOR!
THAT'S A SPIDER SQUASHER!
SKERMASH!


I BEAT THE SYMBIOTE BEFORE,* AND I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
GOTTA HIT IT FROM BEHIND! TAKE IT BY--
* IN SPIDER-MAN #53. -- TOM
--SUR--
--PRISE?
GHLK
BEN'S IN TROUBLE! AND EDDIE'S FROZEN IN HIS TRACKS!
PROBABLY STUNNED AT SEEING HIS "OTHER" ATTACHED TO SOMEONE ELSE!
IT'S UP TO ME TO--
agk
F-FACE FULL OF WEBBING! CAN'T SEE--!
PLIP!


BACK OFF!
SHREEEEE
HELP ME! P-PLEASE! AND IF YOU CAN'T HELP--
--THEN KILL ME! I BEG YOU!
hnh--?
D-DON'T LET IT TAKE ME BACK!
SYMBIOTE SLINGING EDDIE TOWARD THAT WALL--!
GOT--
--HIM!
KRRNCH
PLIP
IT RIPPED OUT A SUPPORT BEAM! CEILING COMING DOWN! GOTTA SPIN A WEB SHIELD--!
EDDIE! OVER HERE!

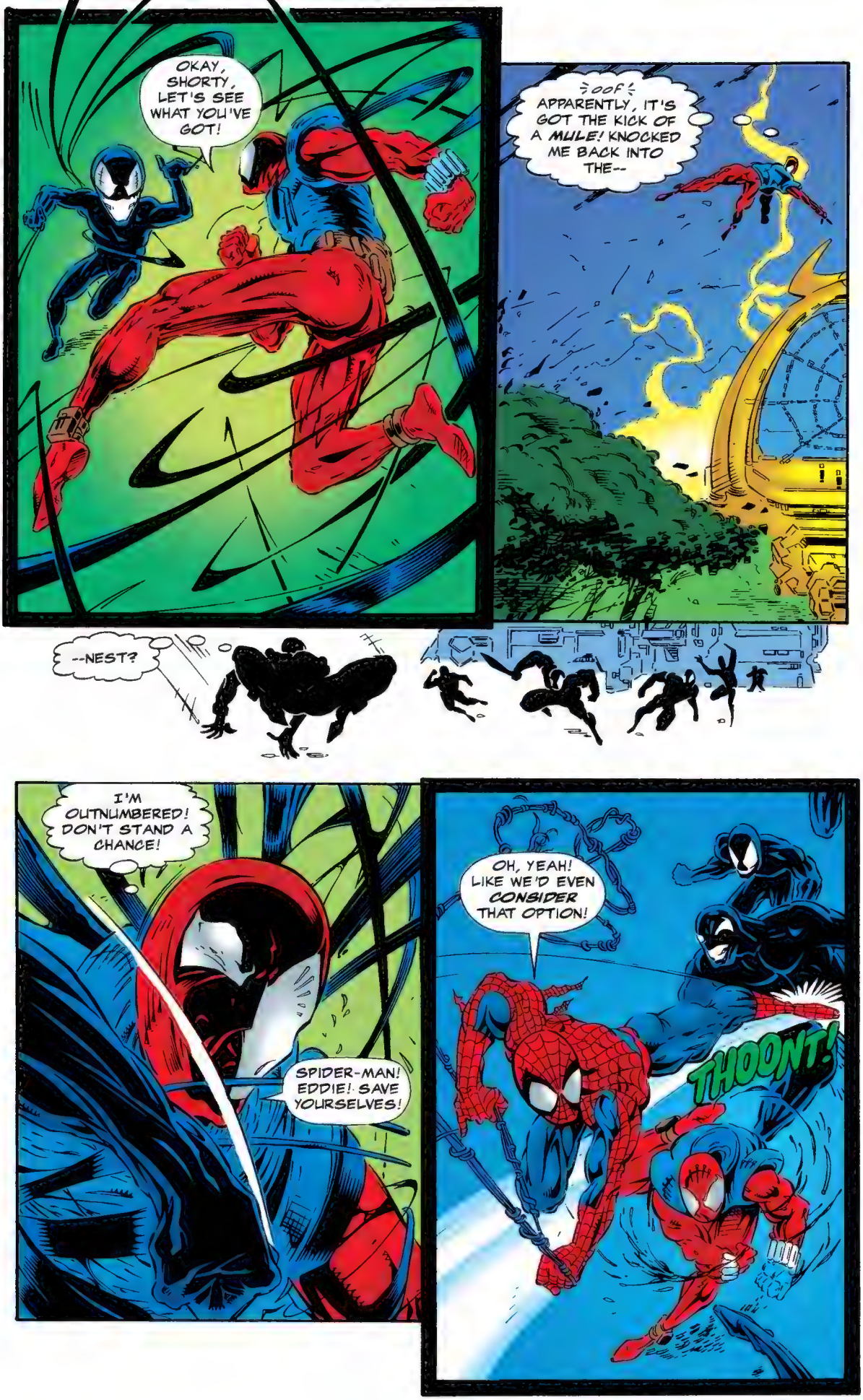

SKARRUMBLE
KRKLNK
OUCH.
SHIELD WORKED!
BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG!
MY OTHER WOULD NEVER JOIN WITH A HOST WHO DIDN'T WANT IT!
DOESN'T MATTER NOW--IT'S GONE!
AND SO'S THE WAVE MODULATOR!
WE'D BETTER HEAD NORTH, FAST!
ANOTHER "HUNCH"?
uh, YEAH, I GUESS! BUT THE FIRST ONE PANNED OUT, DIDN'T IT?
BEN'S A CLONE! COULD HE BE FORMING A NEW POWER, SOMETHING PSYCHIC? AND IF SO, COULD IT BE...
...DANGEROUS?


MIDTOWN.
BLOOMINGDALE'S
I WON'T THINK ABOUT THE DANGER! I WON'T!
I REFUSE TO LET WORRY RULE MY LIFE! PETER WILL BE FINE!
AND WHEN HE COMES HOME, I'M GOING TO BE SMILING! MAYBE I'LL EVEN MODEL A NEW MATERNITY OUTFIT!
HONEY, THAT'S ADORABLE!
YOUR FIRST?
uh-huh.
I ENVY YOU. PAULIE AND I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A COUPLE O' RUGRATS!
THEN WHY--?
PAULIE'S A BEAT COP-- PUTS HIS LIFE ON THE LINE EVERY TIME HE GOES TO WORK! WE FIGURED THAT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO A KID.
BUT I'M REALLY HAPPY FOR FOLKS WHO DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT KINDA STUFF! YOU'RE SO LUCKY!
OH YEAH. "MARY JANE, THE HUMAN RABBIT'S FOOT". THAT'S ME...!


DAWN; UPSTATE NEW YORK--
--WHERE A RENTED 4-BY-4 REACHES THE END OF THE ROAD, FORCING ITS OCCUPANTS TO CONTINUE ON FOOT.
FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING, THAT IS!
WE'RE GETTING CLOSE! I CAN FEEL IT!
HOW CLOSE, BEN?
=ulp= M-MAYBE A LOT CLOSER THAN WE SHOULD BE!
LOOK!


SYMBIOTES! AT LEAST A DOZEN OF THEM! BUT WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?
MORE IMPORTANT, WHAT ARE THEY DOING? THEY'VE HOOKED THE CLYSTRON MODULATOR TO THAT BIG MACHINE! SINCE THE MODULATOR'S DESIGNED TO BOOST ENERGY--
--THAT COULD MEAN THEY'RE USING IT TO POWER UP THE MECHANISM!


I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG!
THE ALIEN THAT STOLE THE MODULATOR, THAT FORCED ITSELF ON ITS HOST--
--IT WAS ONE OF THESE!
BUT IF THAT WAS A NEW SYMBIOTE...
...WHERE'S MY OTHER?
WAUGH
SENTRIES! MUST'VE USED THEIR CAMOUFLAGE ABILITIES TO BLEND IN WITH THE TREES!
FOUL PRETENDER!
GET AWAY FROM ME!
SHREEEEEEE


OKAY, SHORTY, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT!
OOF
APPARENTLY, IT'S GOT THE KICK OF A MULE! KNOCKED ME BACK INTO THE--
--NEST?
I'M OUTNUMBERED! DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
SPIDER-MAN! EDDIE! SAVE YOURSELVES!
OH, YEAH! LIKE WE'D EVEN CONSIDER THAT OPTION!
THOONT!

TRY NOT TO HURT THEM, BEN! THEY'RE INNOCENT HUMANS "INSIDE"!

I KNOW! BUT HOW-- WAITASEC!

IMPACT WEBBING! MAYBE I CAN TIE THEM UP TIGHT!

POK

NUTS! THAT LIVING SMILEY-FACE IS *ABSORBING* THE WEB CORDS!

AT LEAST *EDDIE'S* DOING ALL RIGHT! THE SONIC GUN IS KEEPING THE SYMBIOTES AWAY!

BUT I DON'T *WANT* THEM TO STAY AWAY! I WANT TO HURT THEM!

KILL THEM!

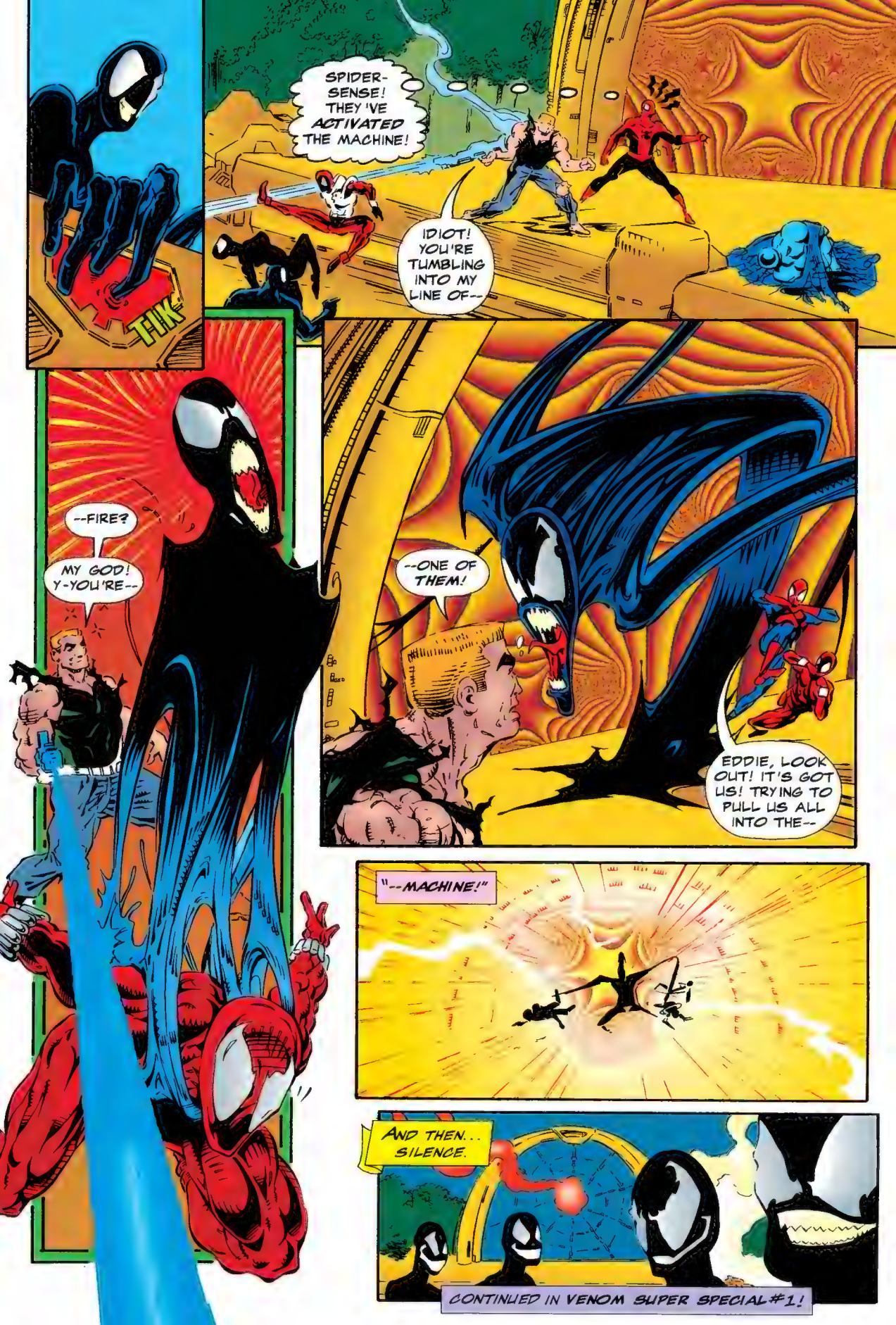
THEY MAKE A MOCKERY OF THE SACRED *BONDING!* I-- eh?

ALIEN SNUCK UP FROM BEHIND, TRYING TO WRAP AROUND ME!

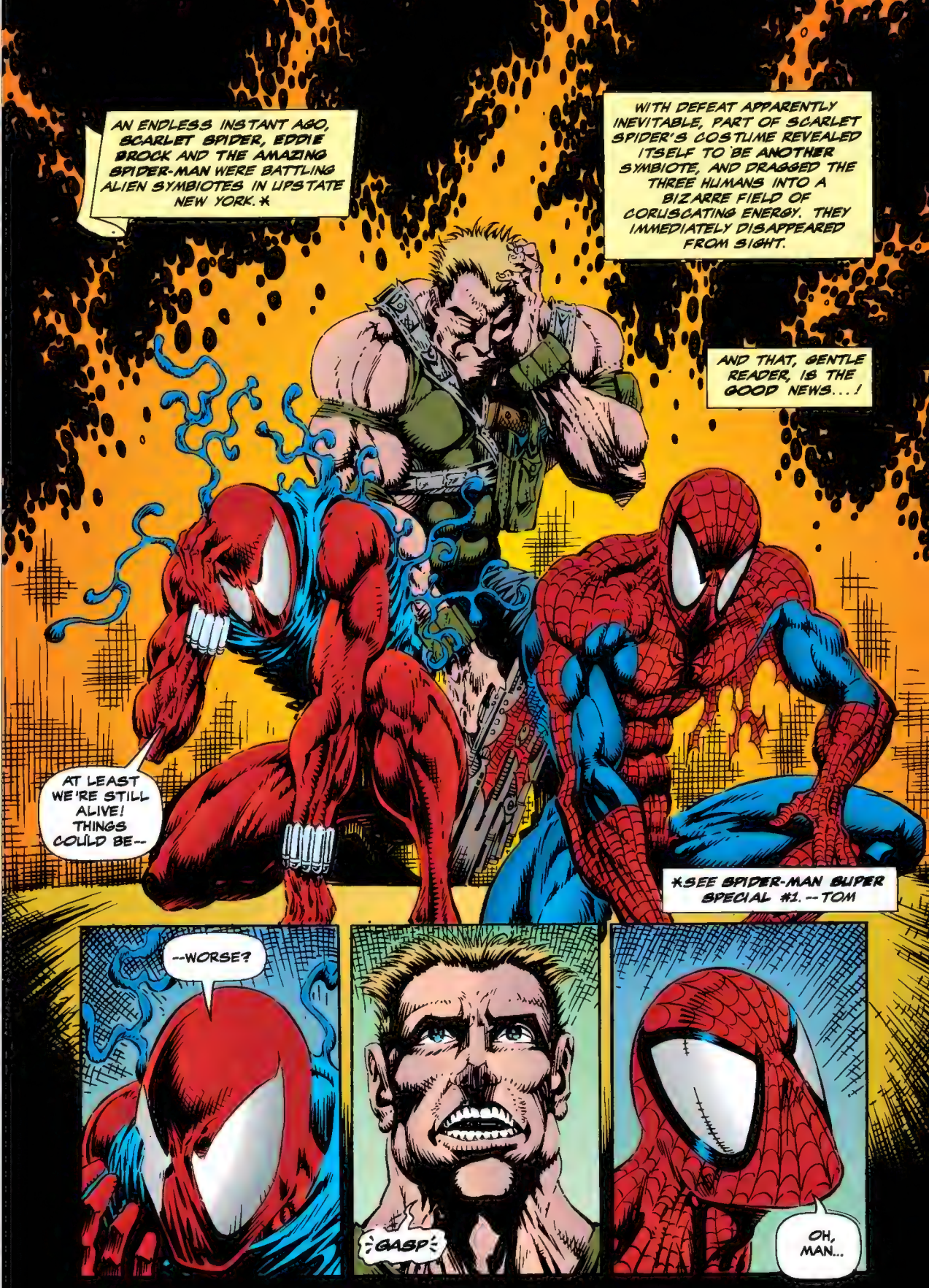
GET... *OFF!*

SQWREEE

HOLY--! B-BROCK TURNED THE SONIC BLASTER...ON *HIMSELF?!?*


SPIDER-SENSE! THEY'VE ACTIVATED THE MACHINE!
IDIOT! YOU'RE TUMBLING INTO MY LINE OF--
TIK
--FIRE?
MY GOD! Y-YOU'RE--
--ONE OF THEM!
EDDIE, LOOK OUT! IT'S GOT US! TRYING TO PULL US ALL INTO THE--
"--MACHINE!"
AND THEN... SILENCE.
CONTINUED IN VENOM SUPER SPECIAL #1!


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
Part 3 of Five
VENOM
SUPER SPECIAL
1 • 1995
$ 3.95 US
$5.55 CAN
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP

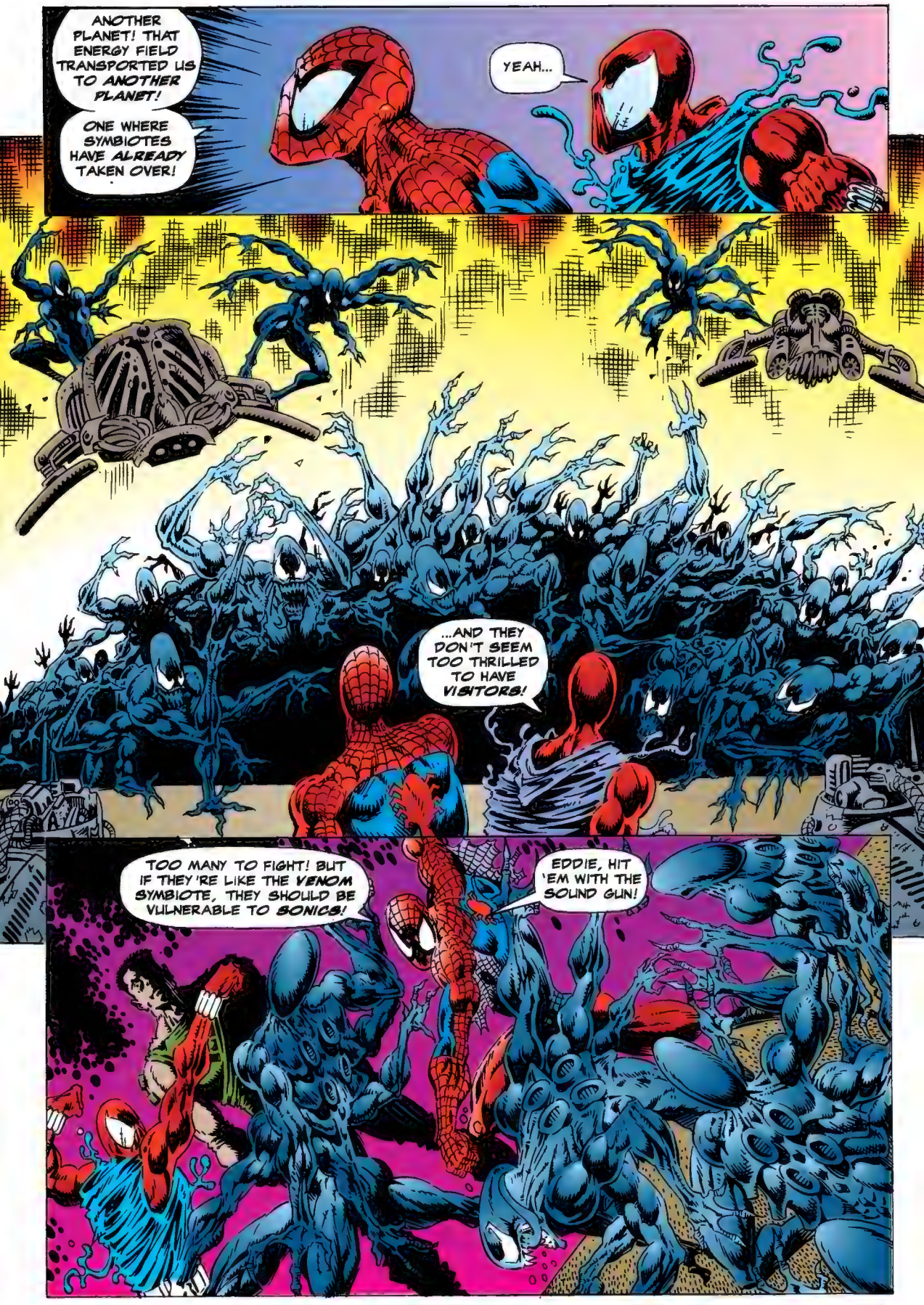

AN ENDLESS INSTANT AGO, SCARLET SPIDER, EDDIE BROCK AND THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN WERE BATTLING ALIEN SYMBIOTES IN UPSTATE NEW YORK.*
WITH DEFEAT APPARENTLY INEVITABLE, PART OF SCARLET SPIDER'S COSTUME REVEALED ITSELF TO BE ANOTHER SYMBIOTE, AND DRAGGED THE THREE HUMANS INTO A BIZARRE FIELD OF CORUSCATING ENERGY. THEY IMMEDIATELY DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT.
AND THAT, GENTLE READER, IS THE GOOD NEWS...!
AT LEAST WE'RE STILL ALIVE! THINGS COULD BE--
*SEE SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1. --TOM
--WORSE?
GASP!
OH, MAN...

PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES
CHAPTER 3:

MONSTERWORLD!

..I HATE IT WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT!

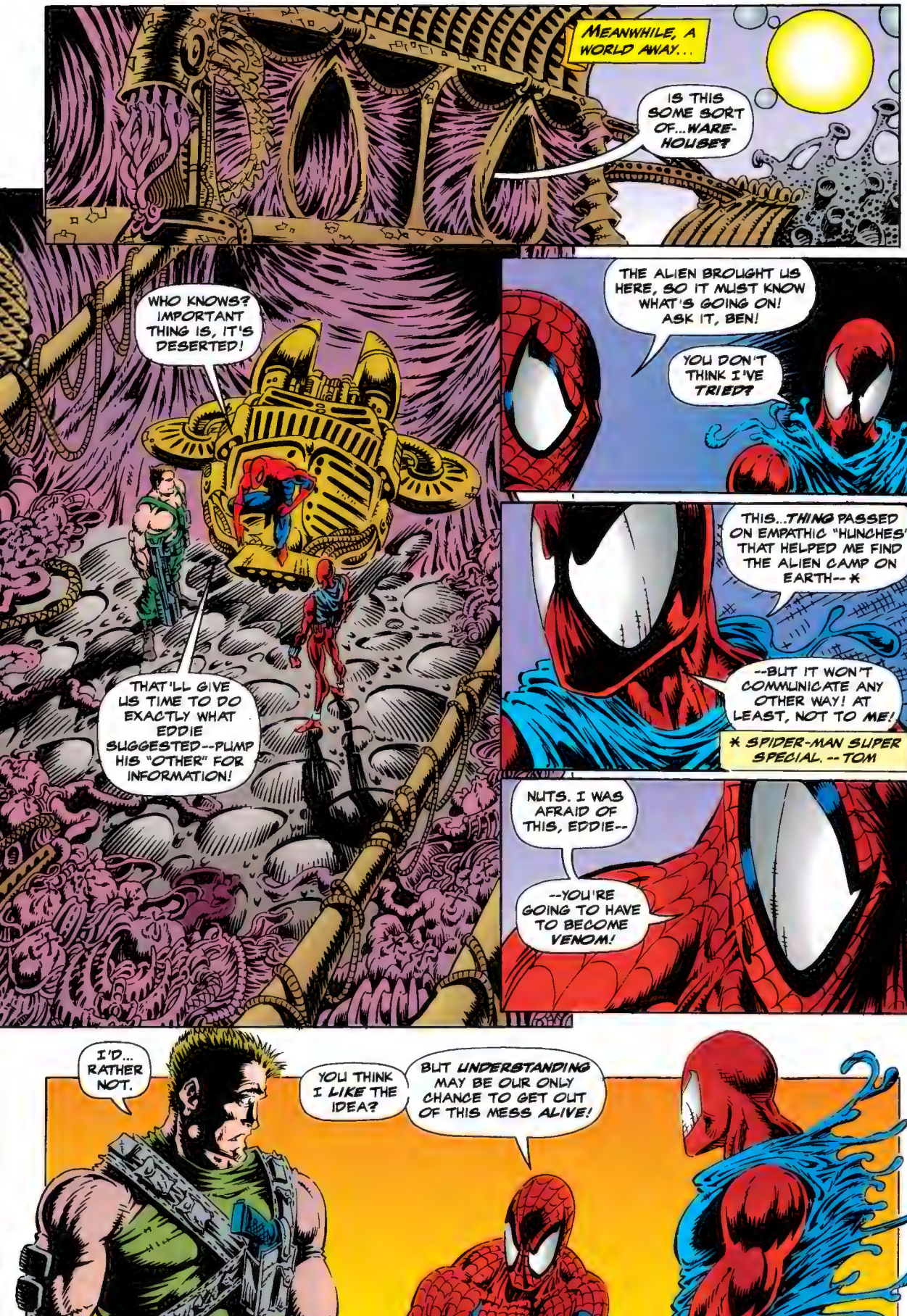
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ANOTHER PLANET! THAT ENERGY FIELD TRANSPORTED US TO ANOTHER PLANET!
ONE WHERE SYMBIOTES HAVE ALREADY TAKEN OVER!
YEAH...
...AND THEY DON'T SEEM TOO THRILLED TO HAVE VISITORS!
TOO MANY TO FIGHT! BUT IF THEY'RE LIKE THE VENOM SYMBIOTE, THEY SHOULD BE VULNERABLE TO SONICS!
EDDIE, HIT 'EM WITH THE SOUND GUN!

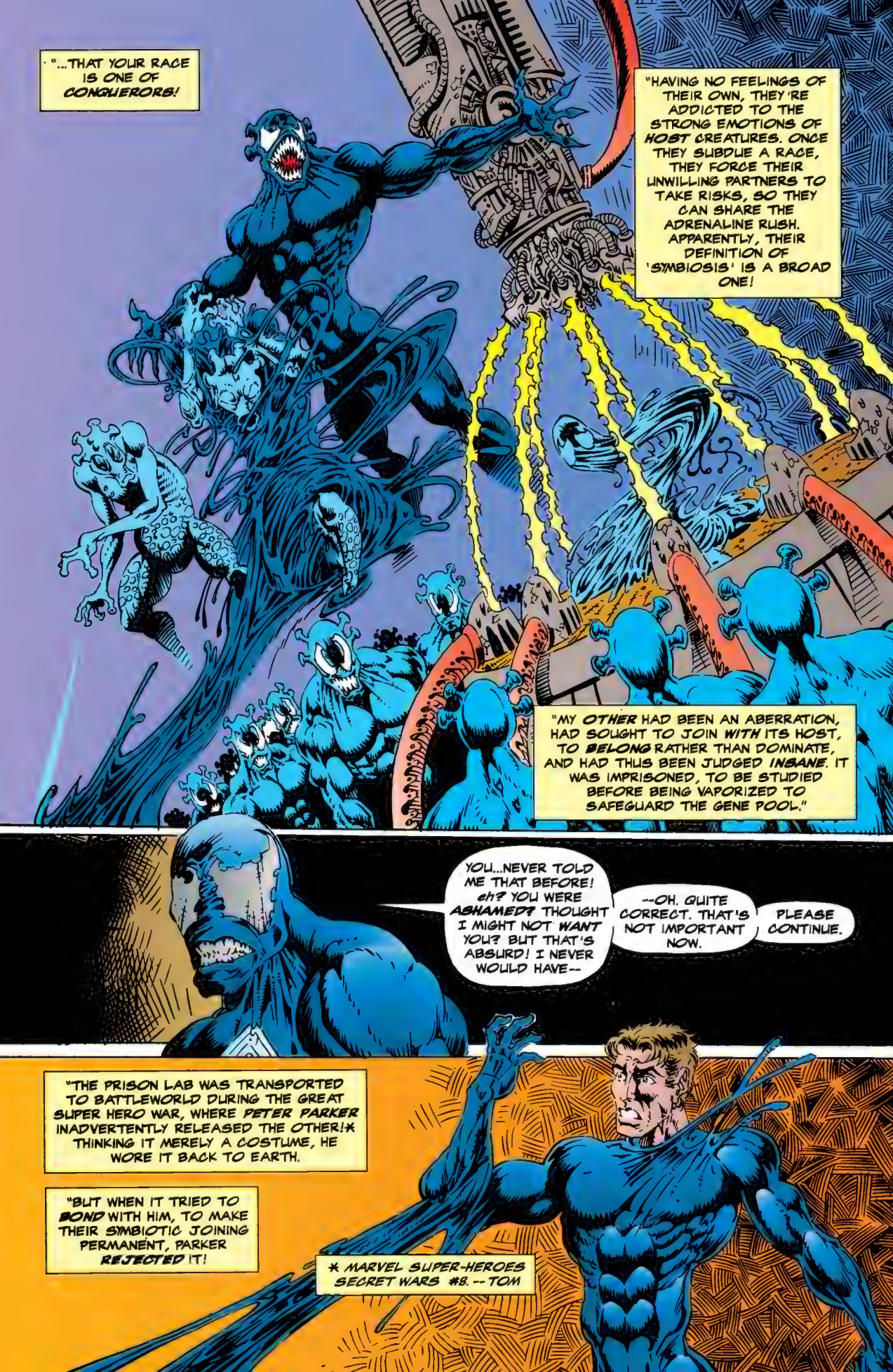

EDDIE? OH, GREAT...
...HE'S TOTALLY FREAKED!
I'VE BEEN TO OTHER WORLDS, AND YOU HAVE CLONE MEMORIES OF THEM! BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR EDDIE!
CREATURES SEEM TO BE TARGETING ME!
WE'VE GOT TO SNAP BROCK OUT OF IT SOMEH--
--OW!
OW!
I...I FELT THAT ONE'S PAIN! COULD IT BE--
--MY "OTHER"?
LEAVE HIM ALONE!
SHREEERREEEEE!


THEY'RE BACKING OFF!
THEY RULE THIS PLANET, PROBABLY AREN'T USED TO RESISTANCE!
OR PAIN!
SO WHAT N--
--OWP?!
HEY, PUT ME DOWN! PUT--
--WAITASEC! IT'S STARTING THE ENGINE ON THIS THING! WE'VE GOT A TICKET OUT!
C'MON! LET'S--
--GO!
SHOOP!
IT MIGHT BE WISE TO FOLLOW THE OTHER'S LEAD FOR NOW.
IT APPEARS TO HAVE OUR BEST INTERESTS AT HEART. BUT ONCE IT'S FOUND A SAFE PLACE FOR US TO HIDE...
...WE NEED TO TALK!


EARTH.
MANHATTAN.
...FORTY-FIVE... FORTY-SIX...
MERCURY FITNESS
...FORTY-SEVEN... FORTY-EIGHT...
EASY, HONEY! KEEP POUNDIN' LIKE THAT AN' YOU'LL DAMAGE THE MACHINE!
VALEO
WORKIN' OFF A MAD OR SOMETHIN'?
MY HUSBAND DIDN'T COME HOME LAST NIGHT.
AH, THAT'S NOTHIN'! MY SWEETIE DOES THAT ALLA TIME!
DOES YOUR SWEETIE FIGHT BRAIN-EATING MONSTERS FROM OUTER SPACE?
uh...
...FIFTY-ONE...
...uh...
...FIFTY-TWO...
...uh...
...FIFTY-THREE...
...uh...
JAZZERCISE!

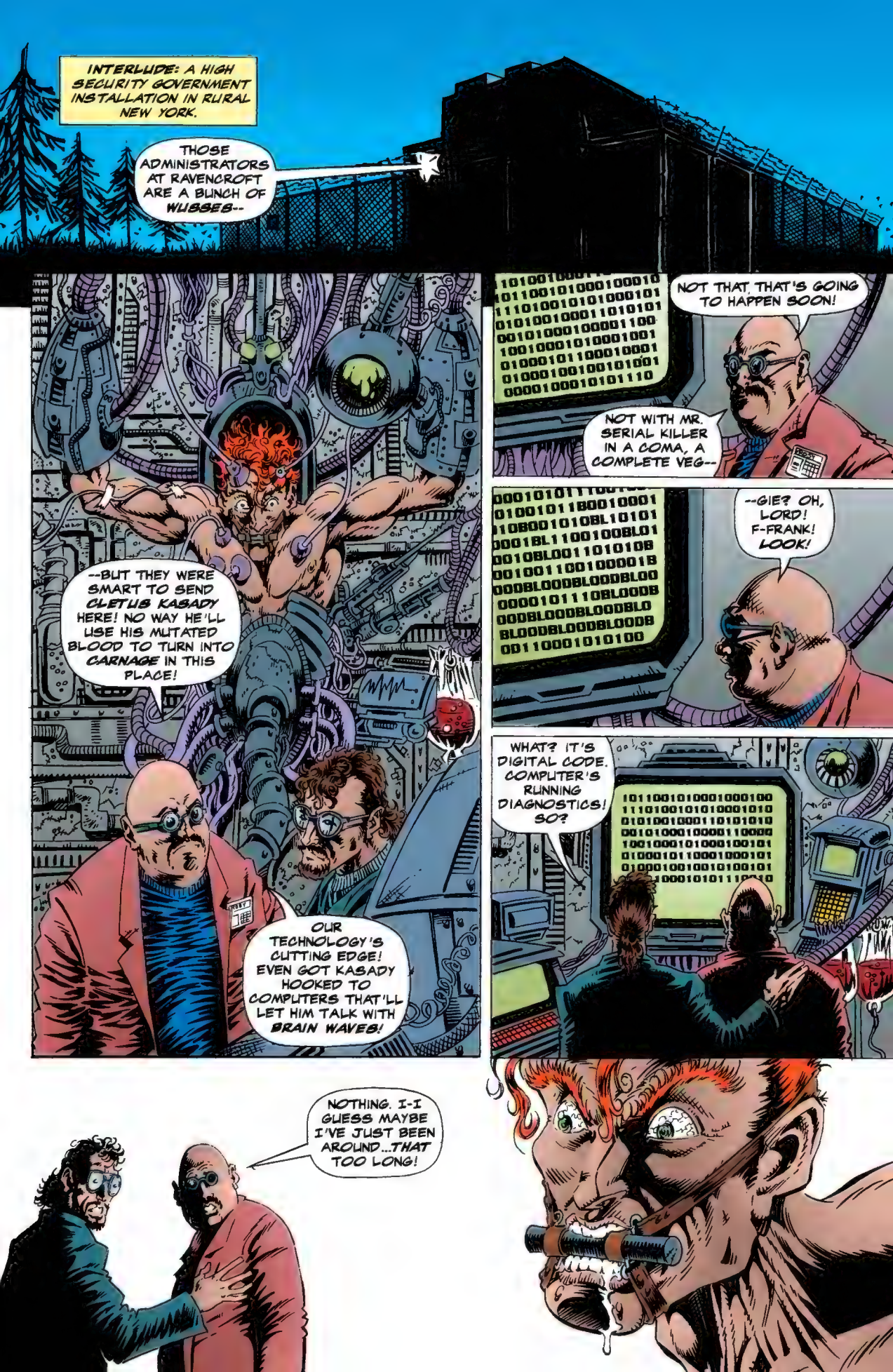

MEANWHILE, A WORLD AWAY...
IS THIS SOME SORT OF...WARE-HOUSE?
WHO KNOWS? IMPORTANT THING IS, IT'S DESERTED!
THAT'LL GIVE US TIME TO DO EXACTLY WHAT EDDIE SUGGESTED--PUMP HIS "OTHER" FOR INFORMATION!
THE ALIEN BROUGHT US HERE, SO IT MUST KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON! ASK IT, BEN!
YOU DON'T THINK I'VE TRIED?
THIS...THING PASSED ON EMPATHIC "HUNCHES" THAT HELPED ME FIND THE ALIEN CAMP ON EARTH--*
--BUT IT WON'T COMMUNICATE ANY OTHER WAY! AT LEAST, NOT TO ME!
* SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL. --TOM
NUTS. I WAS AFRAID OF THIS, EDDIE--
--YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BECOME VENOM!
I'D... RATHER NOT.
YOU THINK I LIKE THE IDEA?
BUT UNDERSTANDING MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO GET OUT OF THIS MESS ALIVE!


ALL RIGHT. I WILL IF--
--YOU...
...NO...
...WE!
YES, I REALIZE THIS IS ONLY TEMPORARY! I DON'T LIKE IT ANY MORE THAN YOU DO!
VERY WELL. I UNDERSTAND.
I'LL TELL THEM...

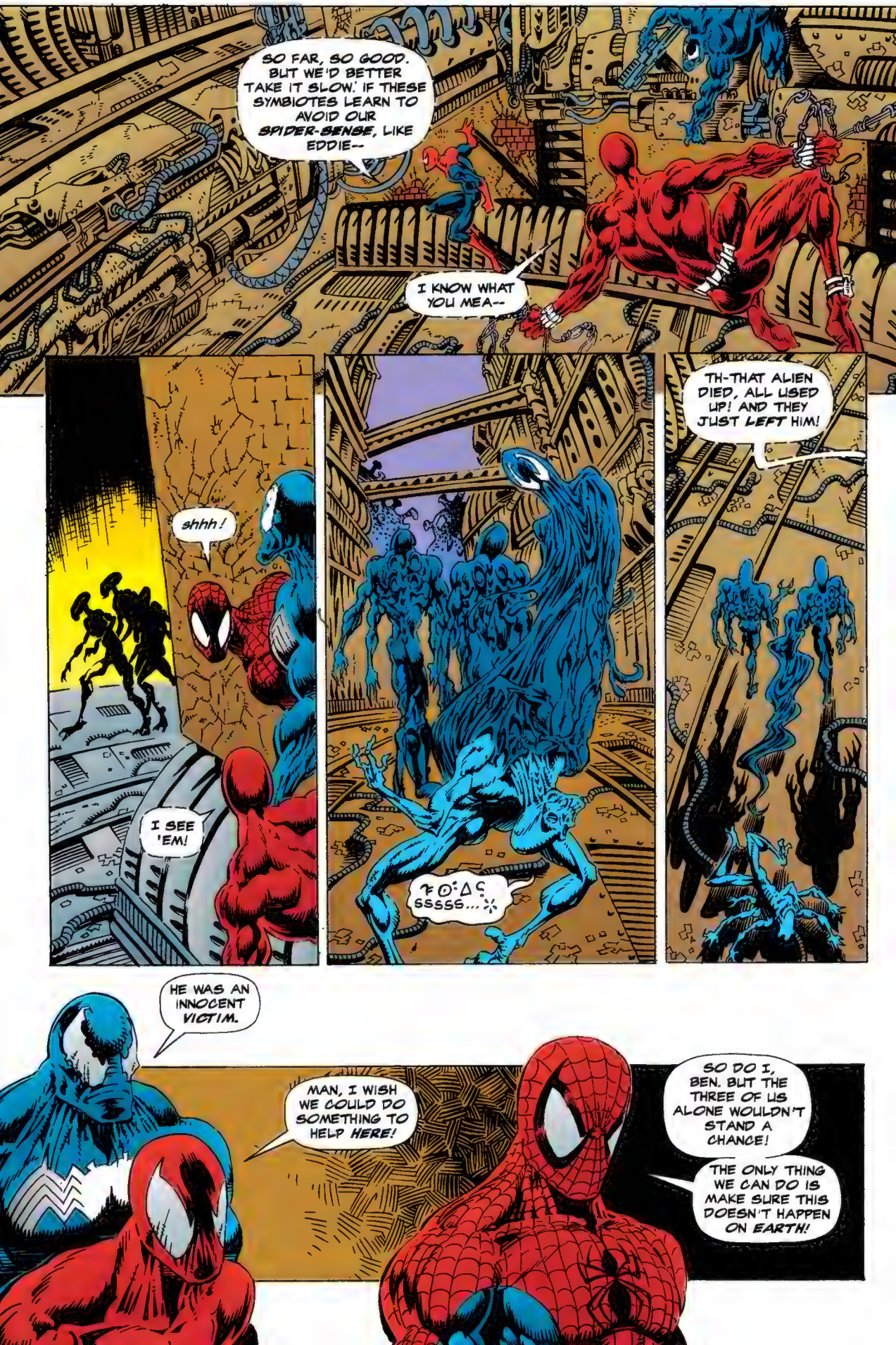

"...THAT YOUR RACE IS ONE OF CONQUERORS!
"HAVING NO FEELINGS OF THEIR OWN, THEY'RE ADDICTED TO THE STRONG EMOTIONS OF HOST CREATURES. ONCE THEY SUBDUE A RACE, THEY FORCE THEIR UNWILLING PARTNERS TO TAKE RISKS, SO THEY CAN SHARE THE ADRENALINE RUSH. APPARENTLY, THEIR DEFINITION OF 'SYMBIOSIS' IS A BROAD ONE!
"MY OTHER HAD BEEN AN ABERRATION, HAD SOUGHT TO JOIN WITH ITS HOST, TO BELONG RATHER THAN DOMINATE, AND HAD THUS BEEN JUDGED INSANE. IT WAS IMPRISONED, TO BE STUDIED BEFORE BEING VAPORIZED TO SAFEGUARD THE GENE POOL."
YOU...NEVER TOLD ME THAT BEFORE! eh? YOU WERE ASHAMED? THOUGHT I MIGHT NOT WANT YOU? BUT THAT'S ABSURD! I NEVER WOULD HAVE--
--OH. QUITE CORRECT. THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW.
PLEASE CONTINUE.
"THE PRISON LAB WAS TRANSPORTED TO BATTLEWORLD DURING THE GREAT SUPER HERO WAR, WHERE PETER PARKER INADVERTENTLY RELEASED THE OTHER!* THINKING IT MERELY A COSTUME, HE WORE IT BACK TO EARTH.
"BUT WHEN IT TRIED TO BOND WITH HIM, TO MAKE THEIR SYMBIOTIC JOINING PERMANENT, PARKER REJECTED IT!
* MARVEL SUPER-HEROES SECRET WARS #8. -- TOM


"THEN THE SYMBIOTE AND I FOUND EACH OTHER, AND HAD A LONG AND FULFILLING RELATIONSHIP THAT ONLY RECENTLY... ENDED.
"IN PREVIOUS BATTLES, IT HAD SENSED SIMILARITIES BETWEEN BEN REILLY AND ITS ORIGINAL HOST, AND SO SOUGHT TO JOIN WITH REILLY.
"BUT IT KEPT ITS PRESENCE SECRET, FEARING REJECTION YET AGAIN."
IT HELPED THE ONLY WAY IT COULD, OFFERING EMPATHIC CLUES THAT LED US TO OUR QUARRY. AND WHEN WE WERE ABOUT TO BE DEFEATED, IT SAVED US--
--BY DRAGGING US INTO THE STARGATE THAT TRANSPORTED US HERE!
BUT WHY WAS THE "STARGATE" THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
UNFORTUNATELY...
"...HOSTS HAVE A LIMITED TERM OF UTILITY. ENTIRE RACES ARE USED UP, MEETING EXTINCTION BEFORE THE VAMPIRIC RUSH-LUST OF THE THRILL-SEEKING SYMBIOTES!


"THEREFORE, SCOUT SHIPS CONSTANTLY SCOUR THE GALAXY FOR SUITABLE REPLACEMENTS.
"WHEN MY OTHER AND I PARTED, ITS...ANGUISH ESCAPED IN A PSYCHIC SCREAM, APPARENTLY STRONG ENOUGH TO BE FELT BY FELLOW CREATURES IN A NEARBY SOLAR SYSTEM.
"THEY HOMED IN ON THE CRY, AND FOUND EARTH!
"BUT SINCE THEY WERE TOO FAR FROM THIS WORLD FOR RADIO CONTACT, THEY COMMANDEERED LOCAL TECHNOLOGY TO BUILD A STARGATE, INTENDING TO SEND ONE OF THEIR PARTY HERE WITH EARTH'S COORDINATES."
AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY GET THOSE COORDINATES?
THEN...THE FULL-SCALE INVASION BEGINS!


INTERLUDE: A HIGH SECURITY GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION IN RURAL NEW YORK.
THOSE ADMINISTRATORS AT RAVENCROFT ARE A BUNCH OF WUSSES--
--BUT THEY WERE SMART TO SEND CLETUS KASADY HERE! NO WAY HE'LL USE HIS MUTATED BLOOD TO TURN INTO CARNAGE IN THIS PLACE!
OUR TECHNOLOGY'S CUTTING EDGE! EVEN GOT KASADY HOOKED TO COMPUTERS THAT'LL LET HIM TALK WITH BRAIN WAVES!
NOT THAT, THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN SOON!
NOT WITH MR. SERIAL KILLER IN A COMA, A COMPLETE VEG--
--GIE? OH, LORD! F-FRANK! LOOK!
WHAT? IT'S DIGITAL CODE. COMPUTER'S RUNNING DIAGNOSTICS!
SO?
NOTHING. I-I GUESS MAYBE I'VE JUST BEEN AROUND...THAT TOO LONG!


ELSEWHERE...
CAN'T WAIT AROUND ANY LONGER! REACHING THAT STARGATE IS OUR ONLY HOPE OF GETTING BACK TO EARTH!
AND GOING ON FOOT, USING COVER, WILL GIVE US OUR BEST CHANCE OF GETTING THERE!
THE TRICKY PART WILL BE IN SETTING UP A DISRUPTION WAVE IN THE TRANSPORT MACHINERY, TO DESTROY IT ONCE WE'RE GONE!
MY OTHER ASSURES ME IT KNOWS WHAT TO DO.
YEAH, BUT HOW DO WE KNOW WE CAN TRUST--
MY OTHER WOULD NEVER LIE TO ME!
NEVER!
OKAY, OKAY! sheesh!
NEVER!
NEVER...


SO FAR, SO GOOD. BUT WE'D BETTER TAKE IT SLOW. IF THESE SYMBIOTES LEARN TO AVOID OUR SPIDER-SENSE, LIKE EDDIE--
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEA--
shhh!
I SEE 'EM!
TH-THAT ALIEN DIED, ALL USED UP! AND THEY JUST LEFT HIM!
SSSSS...
HE WAS AN INNOCENT VICTIM.
MAN, I WISH WE COULD DO SOMETHING TO HELP HERE!
SO DO I, BEN. BUT THE THREE OF US ALONE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE!
THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS MAKE SURE THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN ON EARTH!


THERE! WE'VE REACHED THE GATE!
YEAH, AND PRETTY EASILY, TOO! EVERYONE MUST BE OUT LOOKING FOR US--DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE ANY GUARDS!
BUT THERE'S STILL A BIG PROBLEM: ONE OF US HAS TO STAY TO WORK THE GATE CONTROLS!
GUESS THAT'S ME. HATE TO SOUND MAUDLIN, BUT...
...I AM JUST A CLONE. NO ONE'LL MISS ME IF I DON'T MAKE IT BACK.
NO. THE GATE IS SYMBIOTE MACHINERY. ONLY ONE OF THEIR RACE CAN OPERATE IT.
WE'LL STAY.
I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!
WAIT! SOMETHING--


"--JUST--
"--DOESN'T--
"--FEEL--
"RIGHT!"
THEY'RE HERE!
IT WAS A TRAP! GUARDS USED THEIR CAMOUFLAGE ABILITIES TO BLEND IN! THEY WERE HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT!


TARGETING US THIS TIME!
FOCUSING THEIR RAGE ON MY OTHER, ON THE "ROGUE" WHO BETRAYED THEM!
THEIR DETERMINATION IS SINGULAR! DON'T KNOW HOW LONG SONICS CAN STAVE OFF THEIR ATTACK!
THEN LET'S SEE HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT--
--FIRE!
SSFASH


THEY'RE PULLING BACK!
WE'VE REACHED THE CONTROLS!
SETTING UP THE DISRUPTION WAVE, AND ACTIVATING THE--
--STARGATE!
GO! WE'LL HOLD THEM OFF, FOLLOW WHEN YOU'RE SAFE!
GOT PROBLEMS WITH THAT, SPIDEY?
NONE I CAN'T LIVE WITH!
THEY'RE THROUGH! NOW WE CAN--
SQWRAAW!
NO!
SHREEEE


I COULDN'T--! I-I MEAN, I MERELY REACTED--
--eh? ALIEN CRUSHED THE SONIC GUN! I'M--
--HELPLESS!
J-JOINING ME?
YES! HOW PRACTICAL!
ONE CAN GET THROUGH THE GATE MORE EASILY THAN TWO!
AAGH! TAKING A LAST OUNCE OF FLESH, MONSTER?
WOULD THAT WE HAD TIME FOR VENGEANCE!
BUT SNACKING ON YOUR INNARDS WILL HAVE TO REMAIN A FOND, WISTFUL DREAM!


EARTH.
DONE!
NOT QUITE!
WE'VE STILL GOT TROUBLE HERE! BUT THAT'S BETTER THAN FACING A WHOLE PLANET OF--HEY!
SHOULDN'T THE GATE HAVE SHUT DOWN BY NOW?
SO HOW COME IT'S GLOWING BRIGHTER?
IT SEEMS THERE'S A SLIGHT...PROBLEM. ACCORDING TO MY OTHER--
--SYMBIOTES SHARE GENETIC MEMORY! WHEN ONE TORE SUBSTANCE FROM US AS WE ESCAPED, IT MUST HAVE "READ" THAT MEMORY, DISCOVERED THE DISRUPTION WAVE!
OH, NO!
TELL ME THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY WERE ABLE TO STOP IT!


WELL, ACTUALLY...
OVERWHELMINGLY CONTINUED IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!


PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES Part 4
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...IN SUMMARY: THE GLOBAL SITUATION REMAINS UNCHANGED, AND UNREMITTINGLY GRIM.



IMPOSSIBLE AS IT SOUNDS, SHAPE-SHIFTING **ALIENS** HAVE SPREAD OVER THE PLANET, TAKING HUMAN HOSTS AS SLAVES, LEAVING A TERRIFYING TRAIL OF DEATH AND DESPAIR!



BOLD PROTECTORS LIKE THE **HUMAN TORCH** AND **BLACK BOLT** HAVE HAD SOME SUCCESS FIGHTING THE MENACE WITH FIRE AND SONICS. BUT ALAS...



...OTHERS HAVEN'T FARED SO WELL. THE WORLD SHARES THE PAIN OF **CAPTAIN AMERICA** AND OTHER FALLEN HEROES. BUT WE KNOW THAT IF CAP COULD, HE'D TELL YOU TO STAY INSIDE, BEHIND LOCKED DOORS.

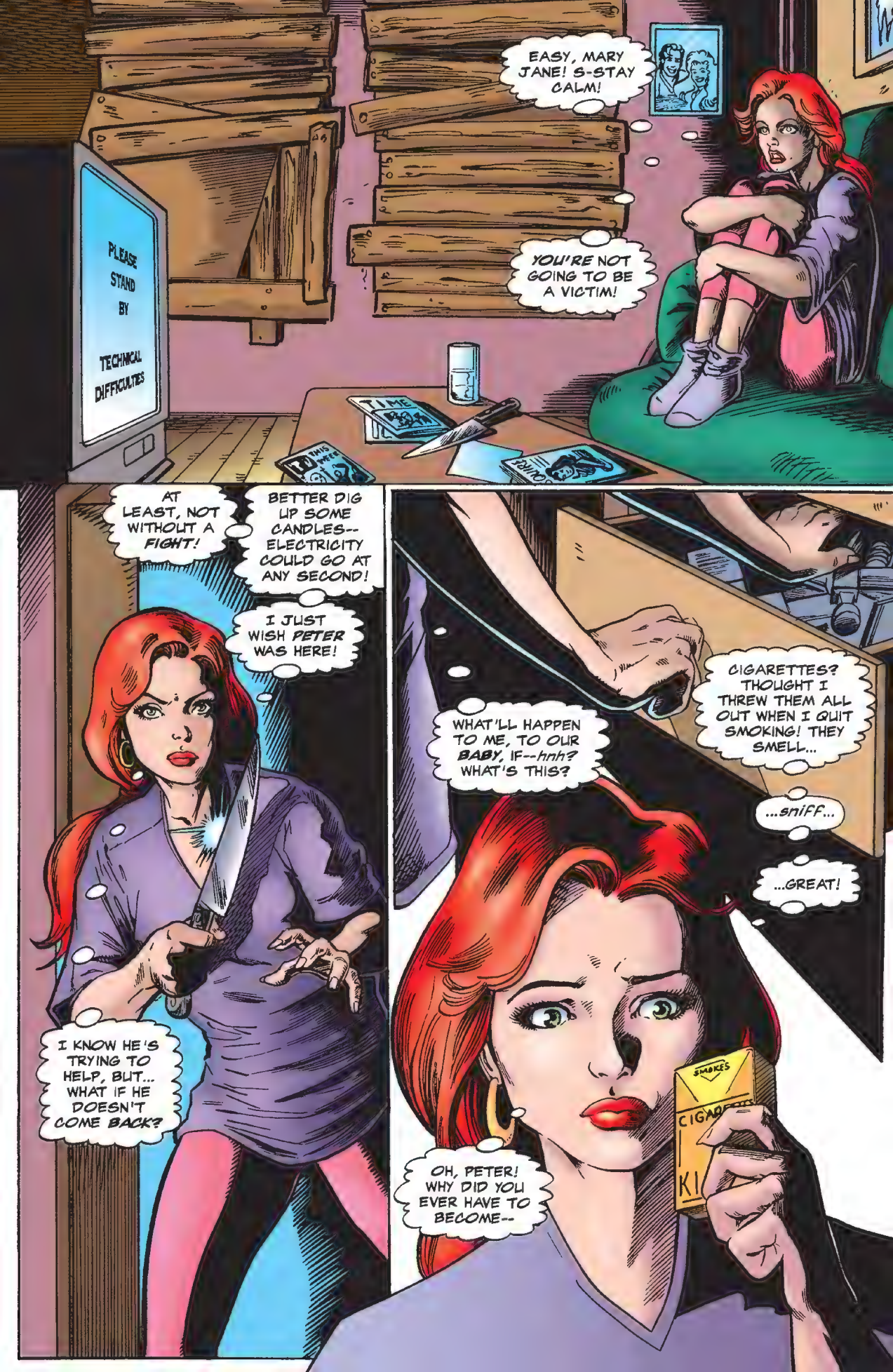


SO FAR, THE INVADERS HAVE MOSTLY TARGETED STRATEGIC LOCATIONS, BUT THEIR PRESENCE IS INEXORABLY INCREASING!



BY NOW THEY COULD BE ANY... WH-WHERE...?


INVASION!
OH, MY GOD--!
THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE EVENTS OF SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #226. --TOM
PLANET of the SYMBIOTES chapter 4
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EASY, MARY JANE! S-STAY CALM!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE A VICTIM!
PLEASE STAND BY
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES
TIME
COURAGE
AT LEAST, NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT!
BETTER DIG UP SOME CANDLES-- ELECTRICITY COULD GO AT ANY SECOND!
I JUST WISH PETER WAS HERE!
I KNOW HE'S TRYING TO HELP, BUT... WHAT IF HE DOESN'T COME BACK?
CIGARETTES? THOUGHT I THREW THEM ALL OUT WHEN I QUIT SMOKING! THEY SMELL...
...sniff...
...GREAT!
WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO ME, TO OUR BABY, IF--hmh? WHAT'S THIS?
SMOKES
OH, PETER! WHY DID YOU EVER HAVE TO BECOME--

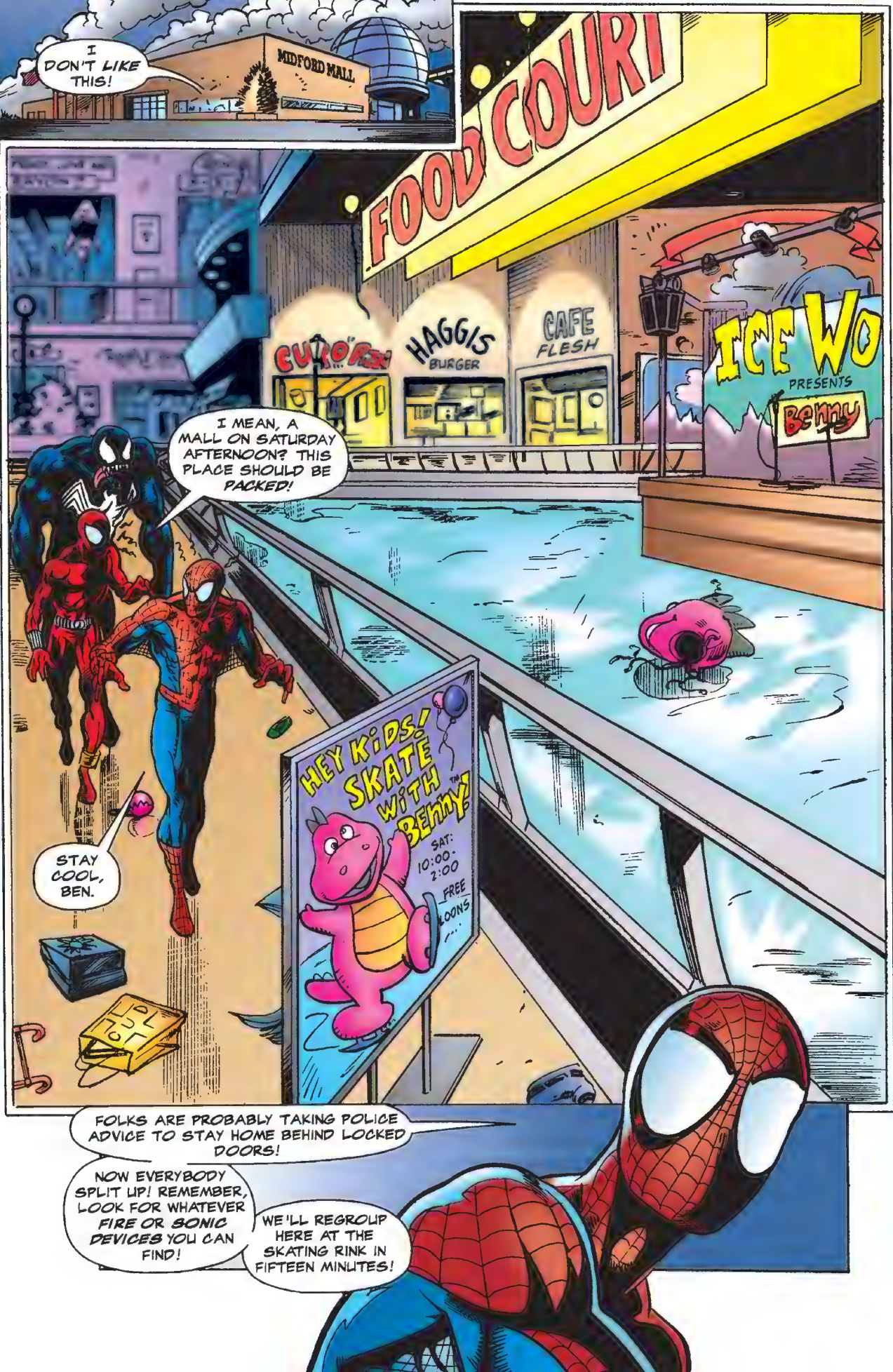

"--SPIDER-MAN?!"
CRIPES! I'VE HAD NIGHTMARES I'VE ENJOYED MORE THAN THIS!
UPSTATE NEW YORK.
MY ONLY PRAYER IS TO TIME THINGS JUUUST RIGHT!
SYMBIOTIC MONSTERS ARE GAINING!
THIS IS GONNA BE CLOSE...!


NOW!
VENOM--!
DON'T TELL US OUR JOB, SCARLET SPIDER!
THWIP!
PUP!
WE KNOW--
--TO BRING THE ROOF DOWN!
SYMBIOTES WILL PROTECT THEIR HUMAN HOSTS FROM IMPACT, BUT THEY WON'T BE HURT, EITHER!
ALL WE'VE BOUGHT IS A LITTLE TIME!


WE NEED WEAPONS, A WAY TO FIGHT BACK!
BUT WHERE DO WE FIND SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HEY, MOM! TAKE ME TO THE MIDFORD MALL
HMMM.
WHILE AT A DETENTION FACILITY SOME MILES DISTANT...
THE WORLD'S OVERRUN WITH MONSTERS--
--SO WHY ARE WE PROTECTING THIS ONE?
THE SYMBIOTE IN CLETUS KASADY'S BLOOD TURNS HIM INTO CARNAGE, THE WORST OF THE LOT!
WE'RE NOT PROTECTIN' HIM, JERRY--WE'RE PROTECTIN' THIS INSTALLATION.
YEAH, I GUESS. THE ALIENS HAVE SHOWN A PREFERENCE FOR DEFENDABLE BASES.
YOU BET! AN' THIS IS ONE O' THE BEST! THEY EVEN PROMISED TO LET ME RUN THE PLACE--


?!?
--AFTER I HELP 'EM TAKE IT OVER!
AH, JER, JER...YA NEVER DID HAVE ANY AMBITION!
HNH?
PING!
CEREBRO-COMMUNICATOR ACTIVE?
NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY.
I-I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN A COMA!
PING!
OH, MY. IT CAN THINK...?


HEY, I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THAT CRAP FROM YOU!
SHTK!
THANKS... I NEEDED THAT!
PING!
THAT'S RIGHT, ELMER! AN' PRETTY SOON--
OH, LORD! H-HE'S BLEEDIN'--!
--I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE!
CHUNCH!
MUTATED BLOOD GIVES ME MY COSTUME AN' POWERS! AN' SOON--huh?
I-I'M ABSORBIN' HIS SYMBIOTE?
NOW I'M TALLER, STRONGER! DON'T KNOW WHY--
--BUT I THINK I LIKE THIS!


I DON'T LIKE THIS!
MIDFORD MALL
FOOD COURT
HAGGIS BURGER
CAFE FLESH
ICE WO
PRESENTS
Benny
I MEAN, A MALL ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON? THIS PLACE SHOULD BE PACKED!
HEY KIDS! SKATE WITH Benny™
SAT: 10:00. 2:00
FREE
STAY COOL, BEN.
FOLKS ARE PROBABLY TAKING POLICE ADVICE TO STAY HOME BEHIND LOCKED DOORS!
NOW EVERYBODY SPLIT UP! REMEMBER, LOOK FOR WHATEVER FIRE OR SONIC DEVICES YOU CAN FIND!
WE'LL REGROUP HERE AT THE SKATING RINK IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!


IT'S PAINFUL, KNOWING THAT ALL THIS CHAOS BEGAN BECAUSE OF US!
INVASION!
INVASION
TEREO'S
ORDER
SERI
YONI
BIG BIG BIG
SAVINGS
JUNE 9-12
WHEN I SENT YOU, MY "OTHER," AWAY, YOUR PSYCHIC SCREAM BROUGHT YOUR KINDRED TO EARTH!
I WAS WORRIED THAT THE VIOLENCE WE GENERATE AS VENOM WAS MORE YOUR INFLUENCE THAN MY CHOICE! AND YOUR RACE IS OBVIOUSLY A SAVAGE ONE!
ON THE OTHER HAND, VIOLENCE SEEMS THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE HORRORS BEING SUFFERED BY SO MANY INNOCENTS! AND IN THAT LIGHT...
...CAN IT TRULY BE WRONG?


PAY PHONES AREN'T WORKING, BUT MAYBE I CAN REACH MARY JANE ON ONE OF THESE CELLULAR--
NUTS. BATTERY'S DEAD!
NOTHING TO DO BUT GET ON WITH THE SEARCH.
BE SAFE, SWEET-HEART...!
JUST A COUPLE OF PUFFS, THEN I'LL CRUSH IT OUT!
I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE WANTED ANYTHING--
--MORE?
GET REAL, MJ!
WHAT YOU WANT MORE IS A HEALTHY BABY!
NICOTINE ISN'T THE ANSWER! I'LL HAVE TO GET THROUGH THIS THE HARD WAY: WITH PATIENCE...
...AND FAITH IN PETER!


I DIDN'T SET OUT TO BE A CRIMEFIGHTER, BUT NOW THAT I AM ONE--
PROPANE
--I FEEL NAKED WITHOUT MY WHOLE COSTUME!
SO, WITH SOME CREATIVE SLEEVE-TEARING...
KRR!!IP!
...AND THE HELP OF THIS DISPLAY MARKER...
...THE SCARLET SPIDER LIVES!
--BEFORE THOSE ALIENS FIGURE OUT WHERE WE ARE!
OKAY, SO IT'S CORNY-- SUE ME!
LEFT THE PROPRIETOR A FEW BUCKS, IN CASE HE COMES BACK.
MEANWHILE, I'D BETTER GET THESE PROPANE TORCHES BACK TO THE SKATING RINK--


FIND ANYTHING?
NADA!
WE WERE UNSUCCESS-FUL AS WELL. BUT PERHAPS THE SCARLET--
G-G-GUYS?
WHAT--?
THEY'RE HEEEERE!
GOT AN IDEA! VENOM, TAKE OFF!
US? RUN?!
DON'T ARGUE! WHAT I'M THINKING ABOUT COULD HURT YOU, TOO! GO!


SKATING RINK SOUND SYSTEM! IF I CAN CRANK UP THE VOLUME--!
WHAT T
PLAY LIST
OH, MAN! SO MANY BUTTONS!
DON'T KNOW HOW SPIDER-TRACTION WORKS ON ICE! GOTTA TAKE IT SLOW!
AND THOSE MONSTERS ARE GAINING!
THIS SHOULD DO IT!
CLICK
MUSIC ISN'T ENOUGH, SPIDEY! WE NEED DISSONANCE!
THE MICROPHONE--!
RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MUH HEAD...
I GET IT!
SKREEEEEEEEEK!
PRESENTS
Benny
FEEDBACK!


IN HERE! THE DOOR IS AIRTIGHT!
STORAGE AREA AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY
MAN, MY EARS ARE GONNA RING FOR WEEKS!
WHY CAN'T THOSE SLUGS JUST GO BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM!
HEY, YOU MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING THERE!
IF WE REVERSE THE DIRECTION OF THE ALIENS' JUMP GATE, MAYBE WE COULD SEND THEM BACK!
THE PSYCHIC SHRIEK FROM VENOM'S "OTHER" REACHED THEM IN ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM!
IF WE COULD AMPLIFY THAT, CAUSE THEM PAIN, THEY MIGHT LEAVE ON THEIR OWN!
BUT--
--WHAT IF THEY STRIKE AT THE SOURCE OF THE PAIN INSTEAD? WHAT IF THEY GO AFTER VENOM?
TO END THE SUFFERING OF SO MANY INNOCENTS--
--WE WILL GLADLY BEAR THAT RISK!


COMPOUND'S FULLA CREEPAZOIDS!
PROB'LY WAITIN' FOR THAT HUMAN *TURNCOAT* TA LET 'EM IN!
GOTTA LEARN WHAT'S GOIN' ON--
--BUT SINCE THE "LI'L BUDDY" I ABSORBED AIN'T *VOLUNTEERIN'* ANY INFO...!
C'MON, PAL, TALK! STARTIN' WITH WHERE ALL YER LITTER MATES ARE *GATHERED!*
DON'T WANNA? MAYBE I CAN PROVIDE SOME *MOTIVATION!*
BET IF I HOLD YA IN THE FLAME *LONG* ENOUGH, YA'LL TELL ME THE HISTORY O' THE FREAKIN' UNIVERSE! I KNOW--
--'CAUSE THIS HURTS *ME* AS MUCH AS IT DOES *YOU!*
ONLY DIFFERENCE IS...
...I DON'T *CARE!*


HOURS LATER.
THE INVADERS' STRONGHOLD.
A FUSE-LIT "HELLO".
PTSSSSSS
PROPANE
BAWANG!

WELL, THAT GOT THEIR ATTENTION!

LET'S HOPE IT KEEPS IT LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO REACH THE STAR-GATE'S CONTROL CONSOLE!

MADE IT! VENOM--

THOK!

--HAVE YOUR "OTHER" RE-SET THE POWER FLOW, SWITCH IT FROM RECEIVE TO SEND!

YES! BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP THE MONSTERS AT BAY WHILE WE WORK!

sigh

NO ONE SAID THIS WOULD BE EASY!

AT LEAST THE TORCH GUNS WE RIGGED ARE EFFECTIVE! BUT HOW CAN THEY STOP--

--THAT?

WHAT?

AN ALIEN SHIP HEADED STRAIGHT FOR VENOM!

OH, MAN...!

C'MON!


PICKING UP SPEED!
WIND RESISTANCE IS INCREDIBLE!
GOTTA FIGHT IT! G-GOTTA... JUST...
...FIGHT!
BEN! THE CONTROLS--!
I'M HERE!
"IT WORKED! WE'RE SWERVING AWAY! I MUST'VE PUSHED THE RIGHT BUTTONS! BUT--
"--NOW THE SYMBIOTES'RE SWIVELING THAT CANNON TOWARDS VENOM!"
I DON'T GET IT! IF THEY FIRE, THEY'LL DESTROY THE STARGATE! IT'S A BLUFF!
CAN WE TAKE THAT--
--CHANCE?
WHOOF!


NOOOO!
SHAVRATCH!
THEY DID IT! BUT WHY--?!
WHEN WE JOINED WITH THE CONTROLS, WE DISCOVERED THE MACHINE HAD BEEN SHUT DOWN AT THE OTHER END!
THEN THE ENTIRE INVASION FORCE MUST BE ON EARTH! THEY DIDN'T NEED THE GATE ANYMORE!
WHICH MEANS WE HAVE NO WAY TO SEND THEM BACK! THEY'RE HERE FOR GOOD!
AW, GEEZ, COULD THINGS GET WORSE?
SORRY I'M LATE!
SORRY I ASKED...!


I STOPPED ALONG THE WAY FOR A FEW SNACKS!
MAN, THEM SYMBIOTES SURE IS TASTY...!
To be concluded ⊶ BIG TIME ⊶ in WEB of SPIDER-MAN SUPER SPECIAL #1!


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MORTAL VICTORY
PLANET of the SYMBIOTES
CONCLUSION
EARTH HAS BEEN OVERWHELMED--
--INVADED BY ALIEN SLAVEMASTERS WHO THREATEN THE EXTINCTION OF HUMANITY!
BUT IF YOU THINK THAT'S THE BIGGEST PROBLEM SPIDER-MAN AND THE SCARLET SPIDER CURRENTLY FACE...
...YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION!

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STEVE LIGHTLE - artist
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MARIANNE LIGHTLE - colorist
TOM BREVOORT - editor
BOB BUDIANSKY - editor-in-chief
MALIBU - computer color

C'MON, SLOW DOWN! I ONLY WANNA SUCK YER *SKULL* OUT THROUGH YER NOSE!

HOW DID *CARNAGE* GET TO BE FORTY FEET TALL?!

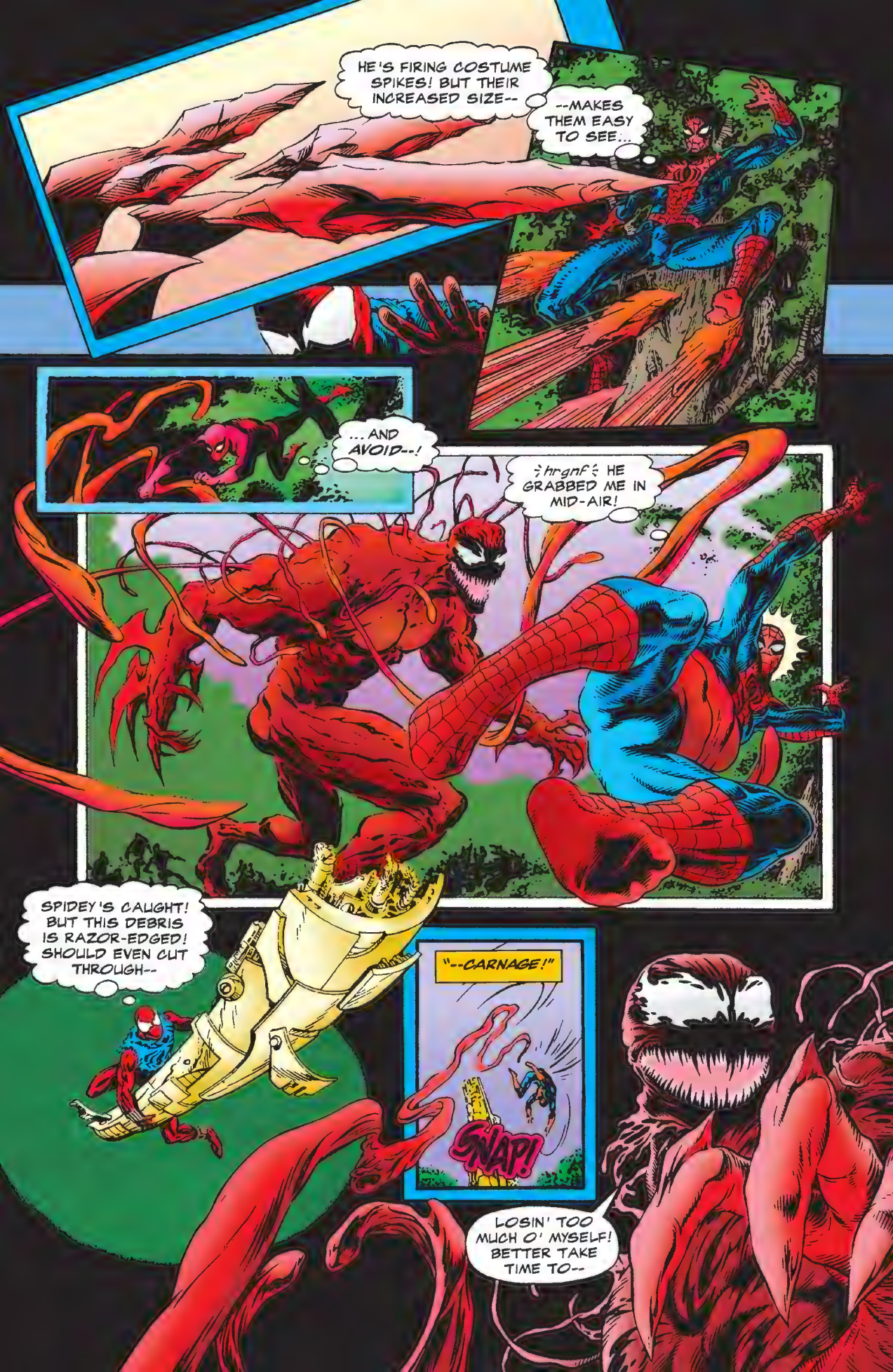
BEATS THE HECK OUTTA ME!

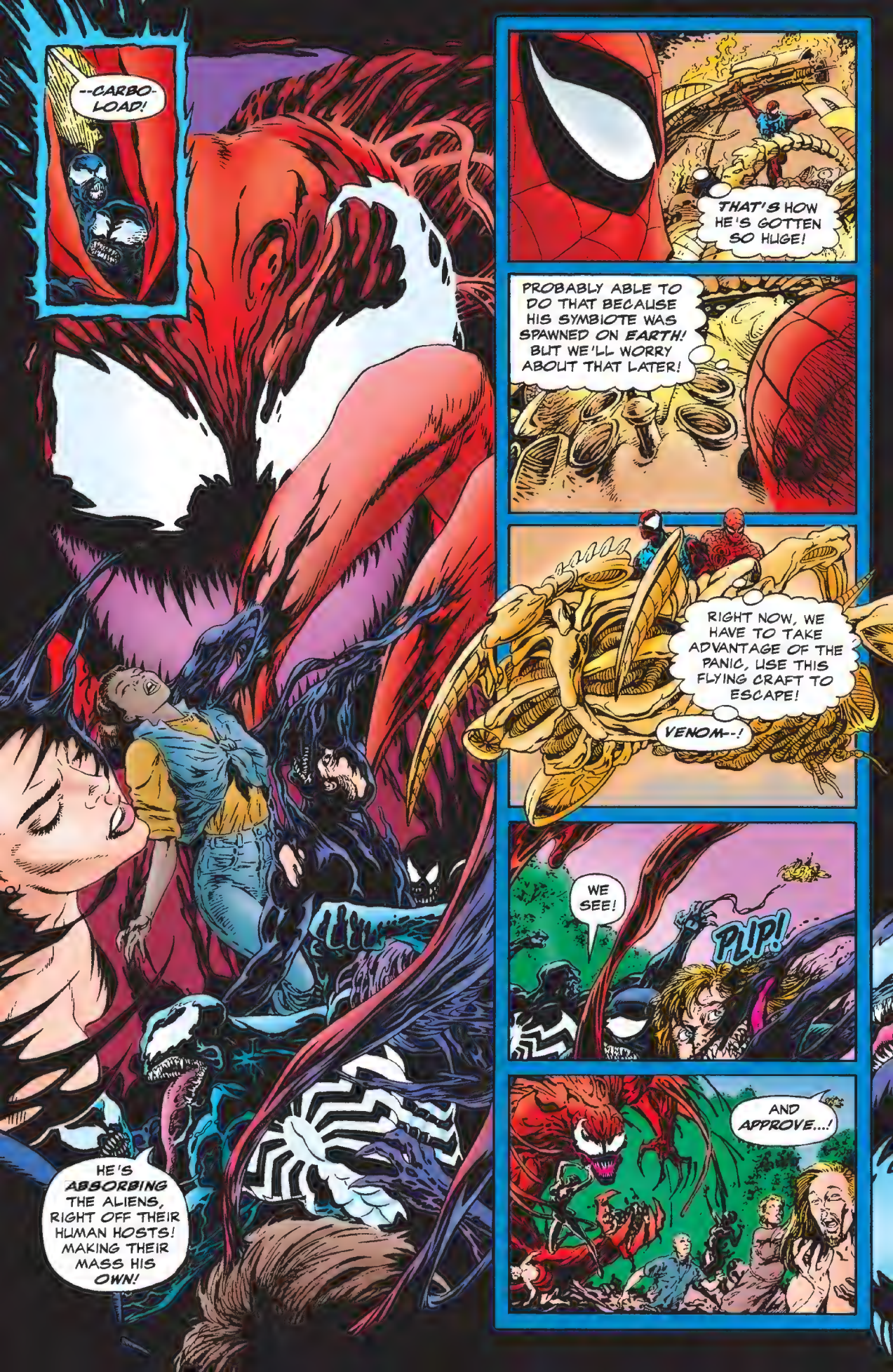
BUT THE ALIENS SEEM CONFUSED, LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF "BIG BROTHER"!

"TOO BAD THEY DON'T FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT *VENOM!*"

"YEAH, THEY'RE ALL OVER HIM LIKE VULTURES ON ROAD KILL!"

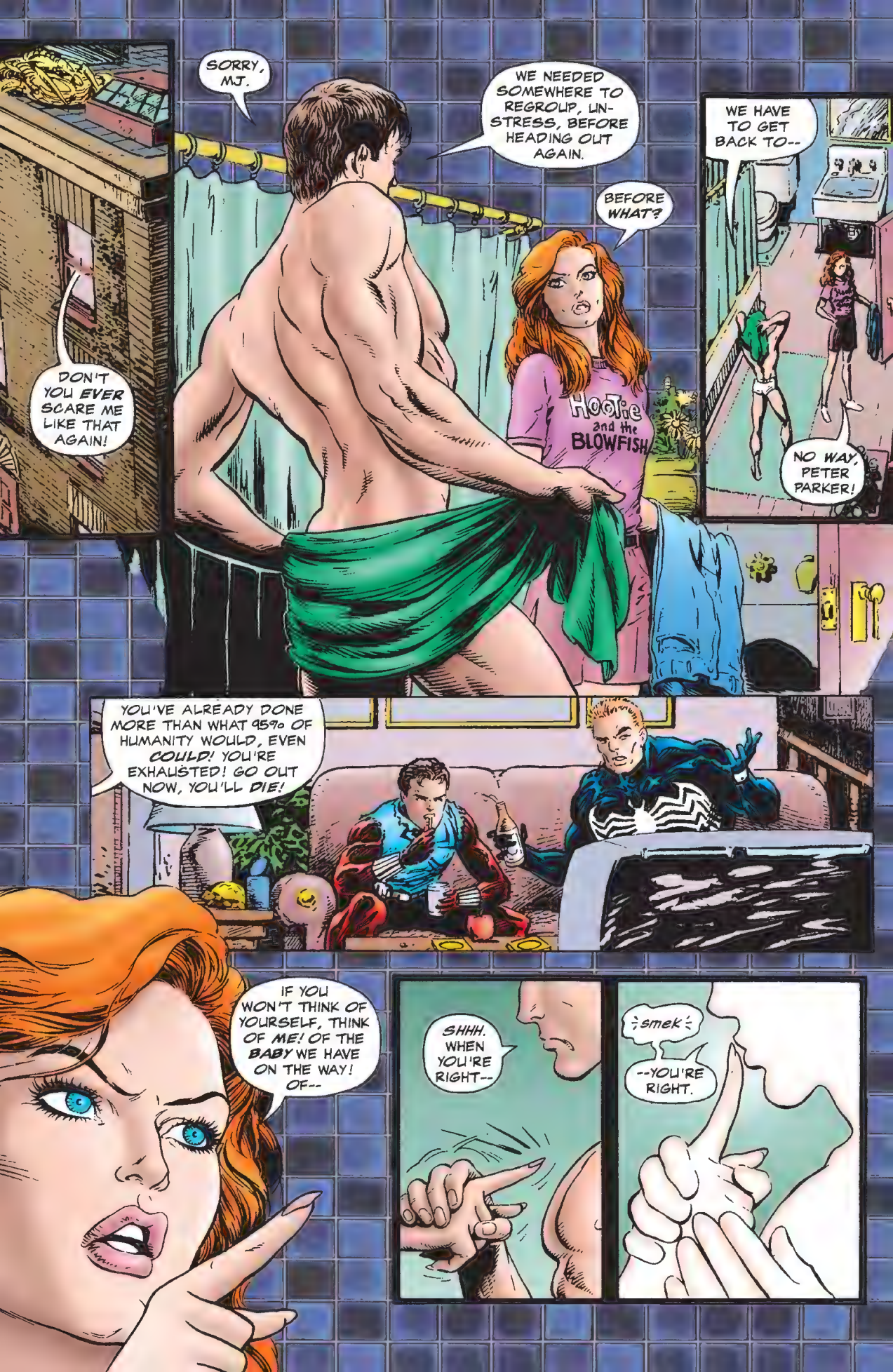
WHICH LEAVES US TO DEAL WITH THIS GIANT *PSYCHO* ALONE!


HE'S FIRING COSTUME SPIKES! BUT THEIR INCREASED SIZE--
--MAKES THEM EASY TO SEE...
...AND AVOID--!
:hrgnf: HE GRABBED ME IN MID-AIR!
SPIDEY'S CAUGHT! BUT THIS DEBRIS IS RAZOR-EDGED! SHOULD EVEN CUT THROUGH--
"--CARNAGE!"
SNAP!
LOSIN' TOO MUCH O' MYSELF! BETTER TAKE TIME TO--


--CARBO-LOAD!
HE'S ABSORBING THE ALIENS, RIGHT OFF THEIR HUMAN HOSTS! MAKING THEIR MASS HIS OWN!
THAT'S HOW HE'S GOTTEN SO HUGE!
PROBABLY ABLE TO DO THAT BECAUSE HIS SYMBIOTE WAS SPAWNED ON EARTH! BUT WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!
RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PANIC, USE THIS FLYING CRAFT TO ESCAPE!
VENOM--!
WE SEE!
PLIP!
AND APPROVE...!


IS...IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?
--I'VE NEVER BEEN THROUGH ANYTHING LIKE THIS! SIRENS HAVE STOPPED...
HAVEN'T LEFT THIS BOOTH IN TWO DAYS. PHONES ARE DEAD. NO WINDOWS.
SO I HOPE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF I ASK...IF I PLEAD...
...IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?
SORRY. I--I GUESS THAT'S NOT VERY PROFESSIONAL. AND I'VE BEEN A DISC JOCKEY IN THE BIG APPLE FOR TWENTY YEARS! BUT--
...BUT I STILL HEAR THE SCREAMS.


SOMEBODY UPSTAIRS!
BOARDS BEING PRIED LOOSE FROM THE SKYLIGHT!
I WAS A FOOL! WOULDN'T BELIEVE THIS COULD HAPPEN TO ME!
I--I GUESS THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE THINKS, UNTIL--
--IT DOES?
NOOOOO!
MARY JANE!
YOU, UH, REMEMBER EDDIE BROCK...DON'T YOU?


SORRY, MJ.
WE NEEDED SOMEWHERE TO REGROUP, UN-STRESS, BEFORE HEADING OUT AGAIN.
BEFORE WHAT?
DON'T YOU EVER SCARE ME LIKE THAT AGAIN!
Hootie and the BLOWFISH
WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO--
NO WAY, PETER PARKER!
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE MORE THAN WHAT 95% OF HUMANITY WOULD, EVEN COULD! YOU'RE EXHAUSTED! GO OUT NOW, YOU'LL DIE!
IF YOU WON'T THINK OF YOURSELF, THINK OF ME! OF THE BABY WE HAVE ON THE WAY! OF--
SHHH. WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT--
;smek;
--YOU'RE RIGHT.


MORNING: THE REMAINS OF MANHATTAN.
"THERE MAY BE A WAY."
...SHRIEKED!
THAT PSYCHIC CRY DREW THE REST OF ITS SPECIES HERE...
ALL THIS PAIN, THIS TERROR, STARTED WHEN I REJECTED MY "OTHER".
I FEARED THE VIOLENCE WE CAUSED AS VENOM WAS MORE ITS IDEA THAN MINE. WHEN IT LEFT ME, IT...
EASY, EDDIE.
SOME-THING TO EAT...?
...AND THE SUFFERING OF COUNTLESS INNOCENTS BEGAN!
WE ARE THE CAUSE OF THAT HORROR--
HWAGGK
--BUT WE MAY ALSO BE THE CURE! YES!
A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL! WE FEEL BETTER NOW!


PERHAPS WE WILL HAVE THAT BITE...!
CRUNCH!
WAITASECOND! BY "LIGHT", YOU MEAN THERE'S A WAY TO STOP THE INVADERS?
POSSIBLY. SYMBIOTES ARE EMPATHIC RECEPTORS.
ICK.
THEIR SENSITIVITY TO EMOTION COULD BE THE ANSWER!
IF WE AMPLIFY THE PSYCHIC AGONY THAT BROUGHT THEM HERE--
--IT'S POSSIBLE THEY COULD GORGE ON EMPATHIC TRAUMA, OVERLOAD AND SHUT DOWN--
--BE DRIVEN INTO PROTECTIVE COMAS!
HE'S NUTS, BUT HE COULD BE RIGHT!
I GOTTA GO.
I...I KNOW.


AW-RIIIGHT!
FUNTIME'S ALMOST HERE!
"HERE, EDDIE?"
"OUR LADY OF SORROWS IS WHERE VENOM BEGAN.
"WHERE OUR FOCUS WILL BE STRONGEST.
"PLEASE... LEAVE US."
BUT--!
WE MUST BE ALONE, SHUT OUT ALL BUT OUR MEMORIES OF PAIN.
WE'LL BE OUTSIDE...
...IF YOU NEED US.
WE WON'T.


NICE! IT'S LIKE WE DON'T EVEN MATTER!
WHA--?!
I STOPPED SNACKIN' ON SYMBIOTES WHEN I REALIZED THEY WERE CAUSIN' MAJOR CHAOS--I LIKE CHAOS!
FIGURED I'D USE MY EMPATHIC LINK TA FIND VENOM, CHOW DOWN ON HIM INSTEAD!
HECK, I BEEN SAYIN' THAT FOR YEARS!
SINCE HE "MADE" ME, IT SEEMS FITTIN' THAT I UN-MAKE HIM!
GOTTA KEEP HIM AWAY FROM EDDIE!
BUT HOW? HE'S BIGGER THAN THE CHURCH NOW!

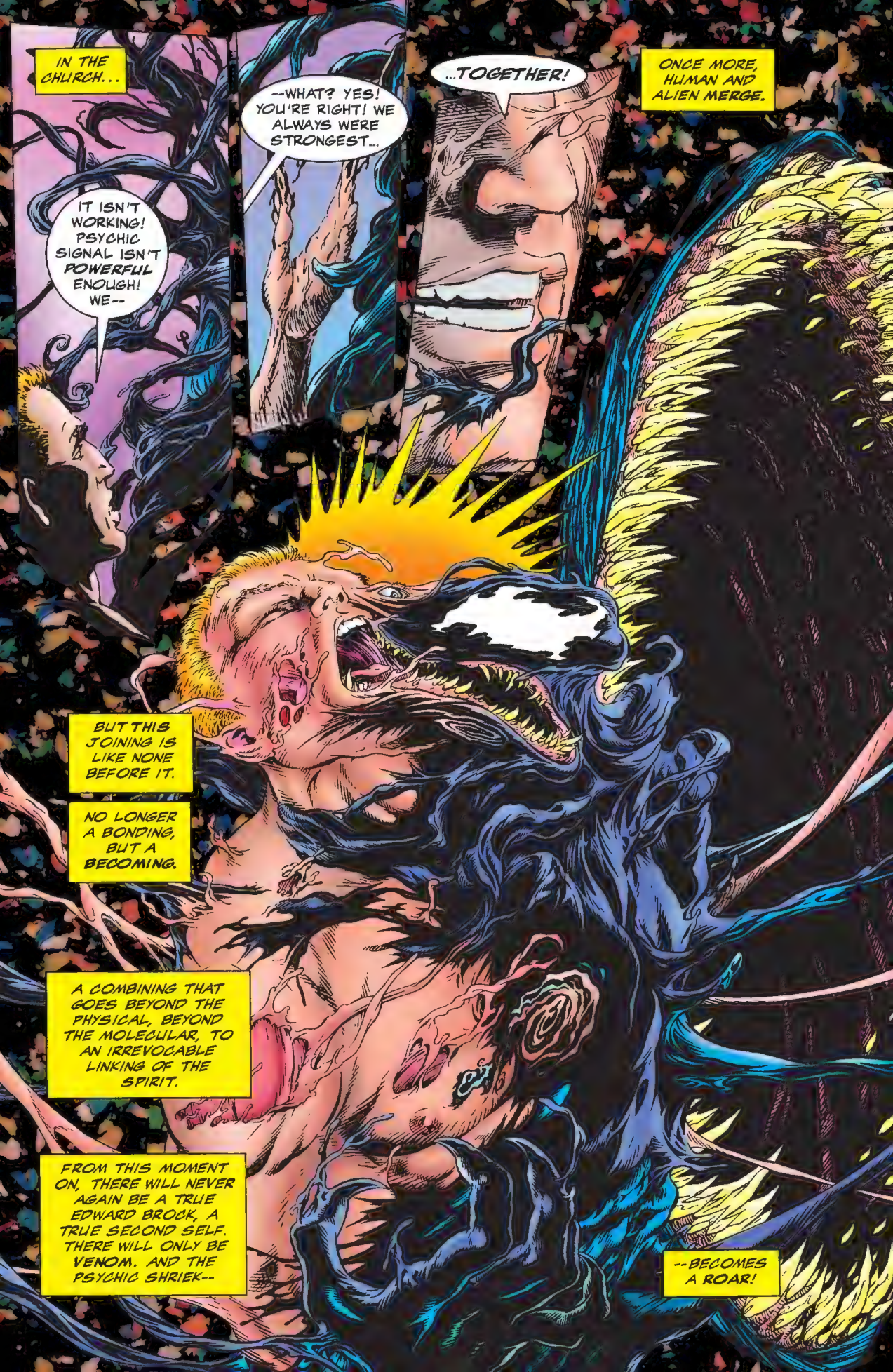

MAYBE PSYCHOLOGY?
WE SHOULD'VE ANTICIPATED THIS! GOING AFTER VENOM MAKES SENSE!
WHAT?!
I HATE IT WHEN I MAKE SENSE!
BETTER GET BACK TO BASICS, GO FOR THE UNEXPECTED!
LIKE TAKIN' TIME TA PULP YOU WHINERS, INSTEAD!
PRUNCH!
IN THE CHURCH...
...AGONY.
A SILENT SHRIEK OF PAIN SOON HEARD... FELT... SHARED...THE WORLD OVER!

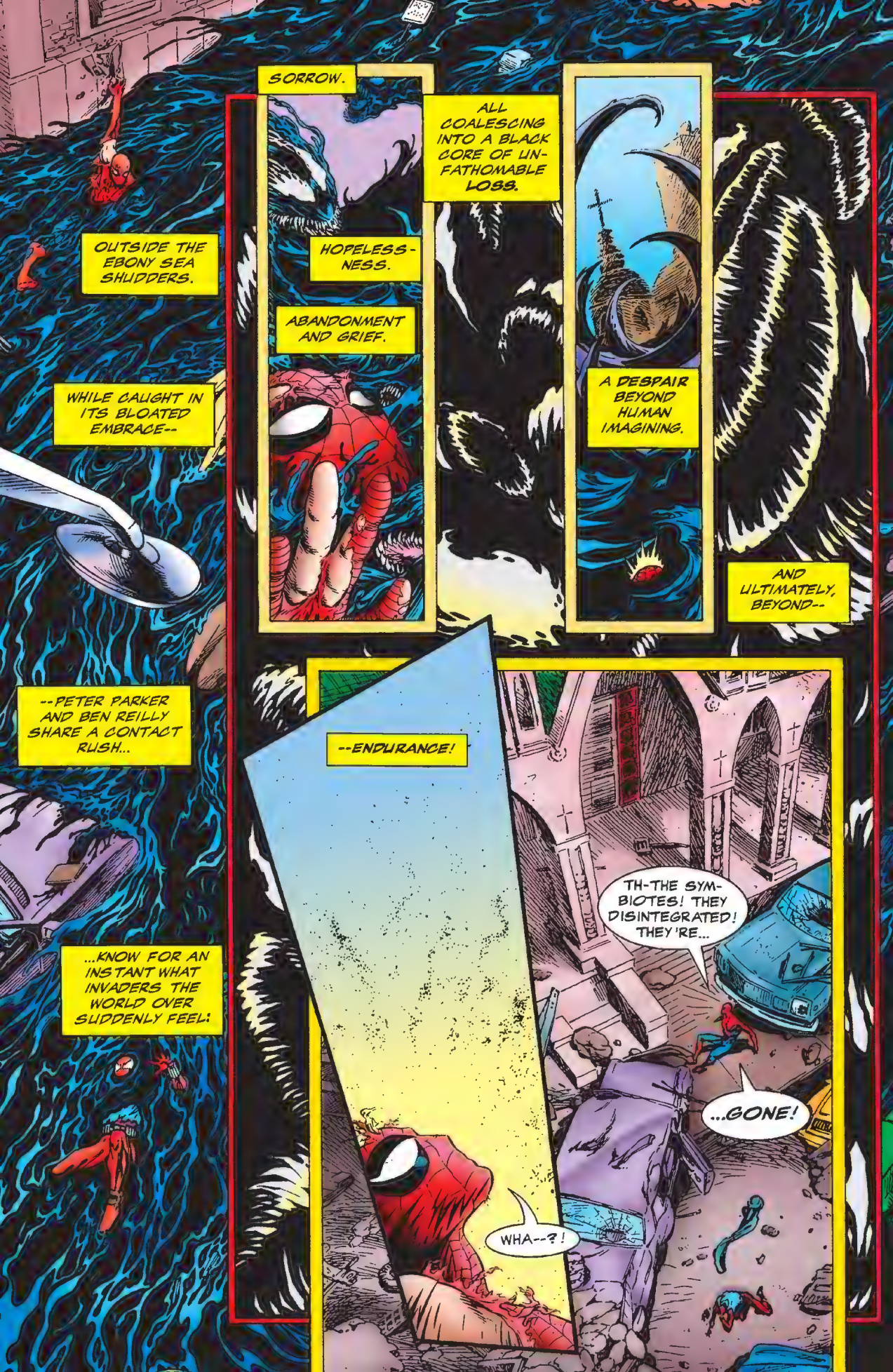

PETER! YOU OKAY?
TR-TRICK... QUESTION... RIGHT?
MY TURN!
AGAIN!
K-KASH!
PETE'S HURT! MAYBE BROKEN!
BUT WE GOTTA GO ON!
IN THE CHURCH...
...ANGUISH GROWS.
A SWELL OF PSYCHIC SUFFERING THAT ENTERS ALIEN NERVES, PULLING..
...LIKE A MAGNET!


TOP O' THE WORLD, MA!
AN' YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT!
THBAK!
WUNK!
M-MUST BE... CONCUSSED!
I-I CAN SMELL...
...FUMES?
G-GOOD... THINKING, BEN!
GAS FUMES... SPREADING!
WHEN THEY REACH WILDFIRES... WH-WHOLE RIG... SHOULD EXPLODE!
GOTTA JUMP AWAY...BUT NOT TOO SOON! NOT 'TIL...WE'RE SURE WE'VE GOT...
...YOU!

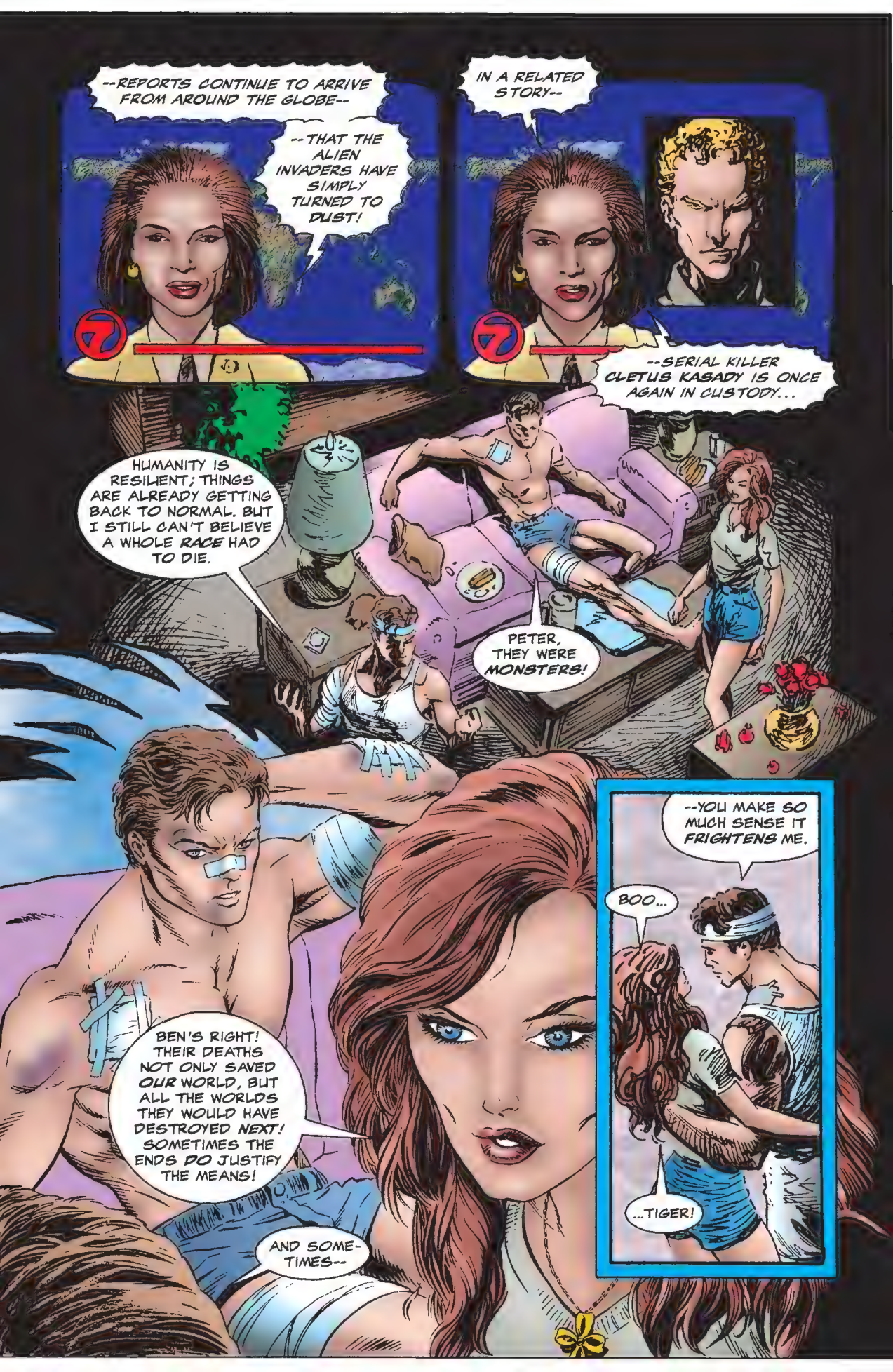

D-DID I TELL...MARY JANE...
...I LOVE HER?
PETER... I...
...I'M SORRY...!


BEN!
FORGET ME!
STILL UNDER, DOUSING FLAMES!
WHAT ABOUT CARNAGE--?
BETTER LOOK FOR HIM!
AFTER I DUMP THIS SOUVENI--
--RRRGGH!
hmh? RIVER SWELLING? NO! I-IT'S A SEA OF--
--SYMBIOTES!


IN THE CHURCH...
IT ISN'T WORKING! PSYCHIC SIGNAL ISN'T POWERFUL ENOUGH! WE--
--WHAT? YES! YOU'RE RIGHT! WE ALWAYS WERE STRONGEST...
...TOGETHER!
ONCE MORE, HUMAN AND ALIEN MERGE.
BUT THIS JOINING IS LIKE NONE BEFORE IT.
NO LONGER A BONDING, BUT A BECOMING.
A COMBINING THAT GOES BEYOND THE PHYSICAL, BEYOND THE MOLECULAR, TO AN IRREVOCABLE LINKING OF THE SPIRIT.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, THERE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE A TRUE EDWARD BROCK, A TRUE SECOND SELF. THERE WILL ONLY BE VENOM. AND THE PSYCHIC SHRIEK--
--BECOMES A ROAR!

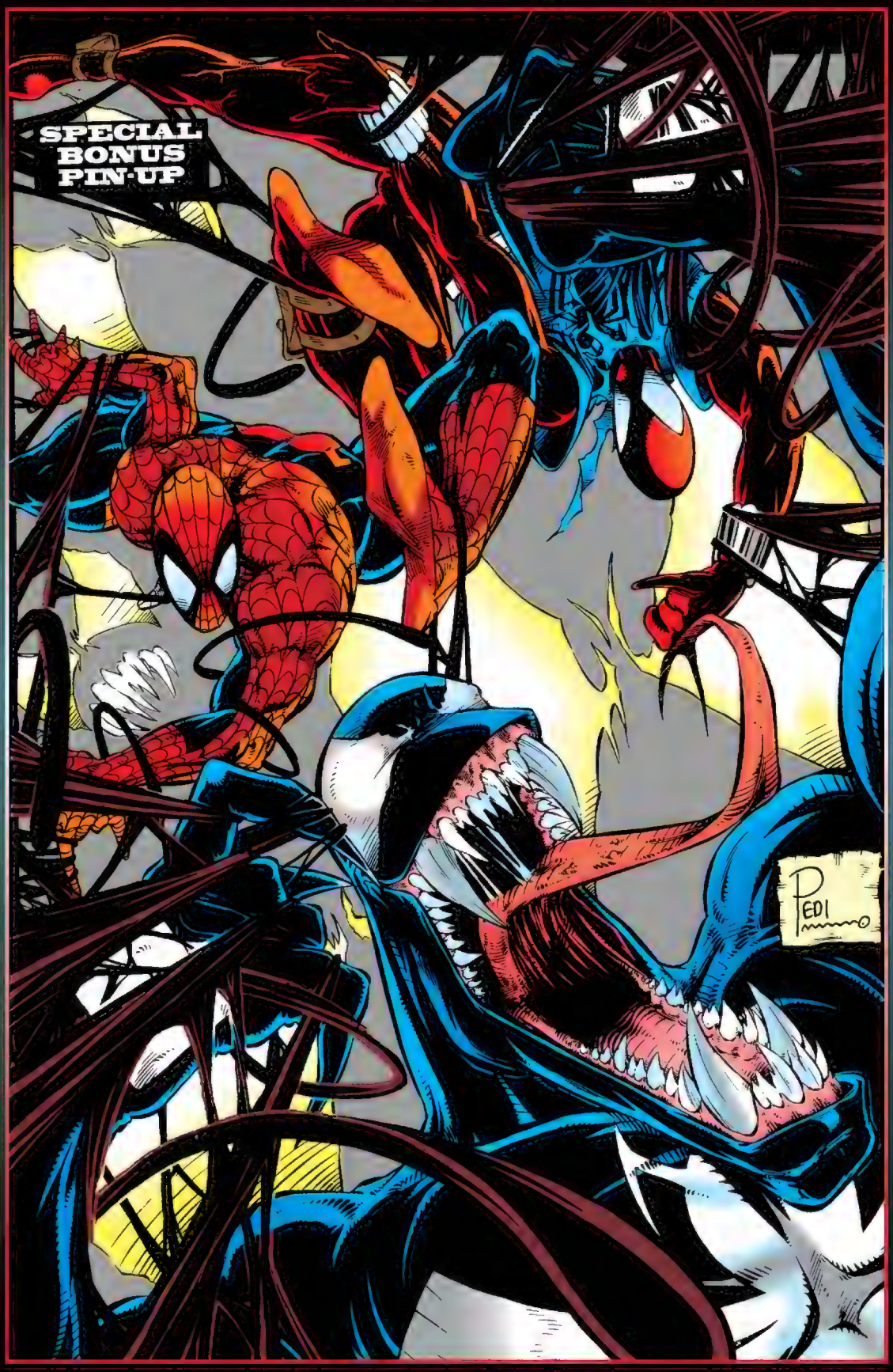

OUTSIDE THE EBONY SEA SHUDDERS.
WHILE CAUGHT IN ITS BLOATED EMBRACE--
--PETER PARKER AND BEN REILLY SHARE A CONTACT RUSH...
...KNOW FOR AN INSTANT WHAT INVADERS THE WORLD OVER SUDDENLY FEEL:
SORROW.
HOPELESSNESS.
ABANDONMENT AND GRIEF.
ALL COALESCING INTO A BLACK CORE OF UNFATHOMABLE LOSS.
A DESPAIR BEYOND HUMAN IMAGINING.
AND ULTIMATELY, BEYOND--
--ENDURANCE!
WHA--?!
TH-THE SYMBIOTES! THEY DISINTEGRATED! THEY'RE...
...GONE!


YOU KILLED THEM!
YOU SAID THEY'D FALL INTO COMAS--
--BUT YOU LIED!
AND IF WE SAID WE INTENDED TO MURDER AN ENTIRE RACE?
WE...WE WOULD HAVE STOPPED YOU?
PRECISELY. MY "OTHER" KNEW THE ONLY WAY HIS KIND CAN TRULY DIE IS BY CHOICE, BY CONSCIOUS DISCORPORATION! THUS THE SOLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE ANNIHILATION OF HUMANKIND--
--WAS TO MAKE LIFE SO UNBEARABLE FOR THE INVADERS THAT THEY CHOSE MASS SUICIDE!
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE US...ASK CLETUS KASADY!
CARNAGE? HE'S HERE?!
WHERE--?
KREEESH!
AND WITH HIS CAMOUFLAGE ABILITY, WE'D NEVER FIND HIM! MAYBE IT'S TIME TO CUT OUR LOSSES, CALL IT A DAY.
GO HOME.
VENOM SUCKERED US, JUST TO GET AWAY!

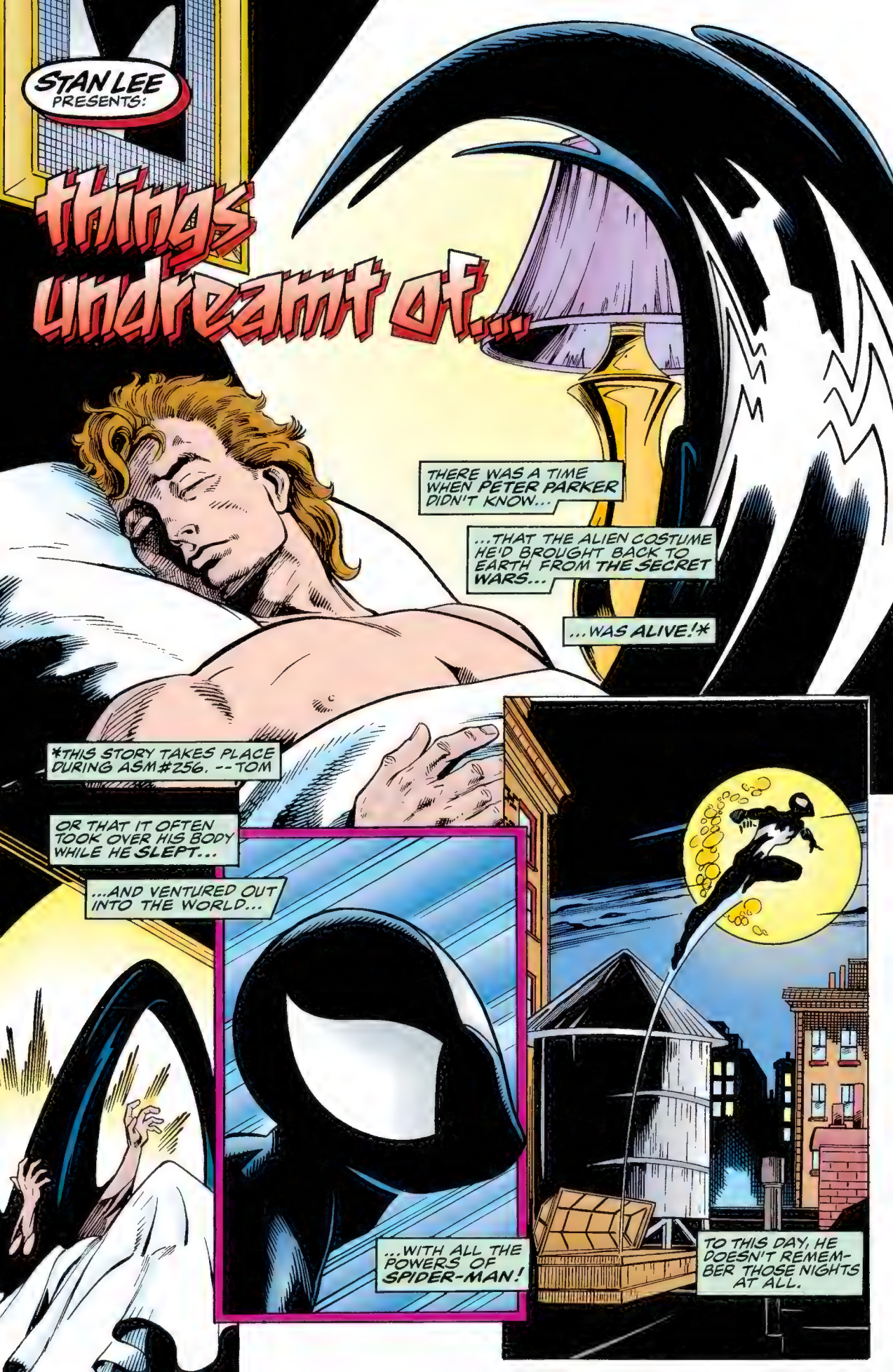

--REPORTS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE FROM AROUND THE GLOBE--
--THAT THE ALIEN INVADERS HAVE SIMPLY TURNED TO DUST!
IN A RELATED STORY--
--SERIAL KILLER CLETUS KASADY IS ONCE AGAIN IN CUSTODY...
HUMANITY IS RESILIENT; THINGS ARE ALREADY GETTING BACK TO NORMAL. BUT I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE A WHOLE RACE HAD TO DIE.
PETER, THEY WERE MONSTERS!
--YOU MAKE SO MUCH SENSE IT FRIGHTENS ME.
BOO...
...TIGER!
BEN'S RIGHT! THEIR DEATHS NOT ONLY SAVED OUR WORLD, BUT ALL THE WORLDS THEY WOULD HAVE DESTROYED NEXT! SOMETIMES THE ENDS DO JUSTIFY THE MEANS!
AND SOME-TIMES--


CENTRAL PARK.
WE ARE... CONTENT.
WE'VE RECONCILED OUR AMBIVALENCE, ACCEPTED WHAT WE ARE.
SAVING AN ENTIRE WORLD BROUGHT THAT HOME ONCE AND FOR ALL. WE KNOW NOW IT IS OUR IMMUTABLE DESTINY TO PROTECT INNOCENTS, NO MATTER WHAT THE COST.
WHICH OF US DECIDES HOW TO REACH THAT NOBLE GOAL IS IRRELEVANT; ITS ACHIEVEMENT IS ALL THAT TRULY MATTERS.
AND FOR THAT REASON, WE ARE...AND WILL FOREVER REMAIN...
...VENOM!
THE END
STEVE LIEBER

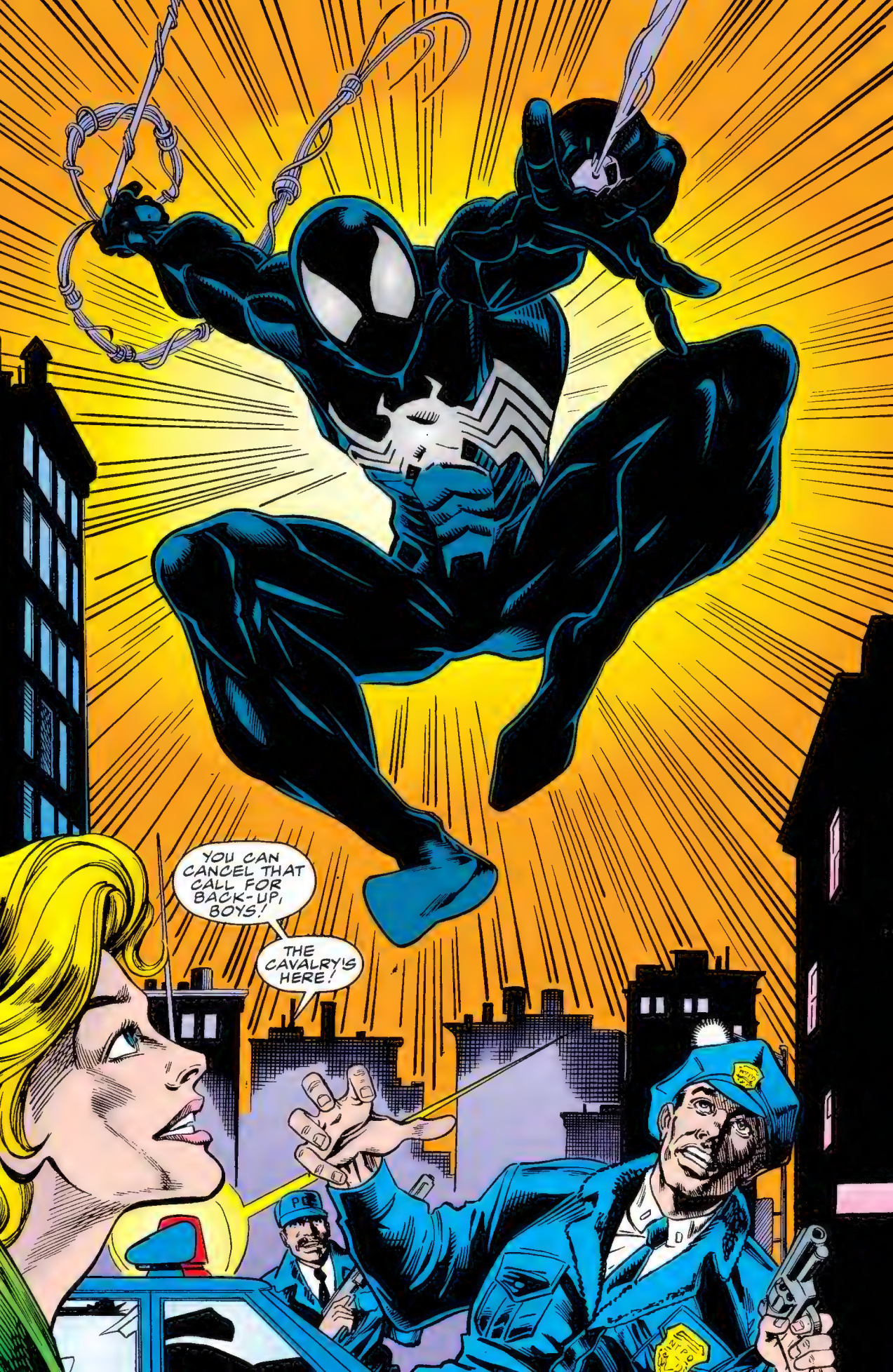
Venom Super Special also contained a backup story featuring the alien symbiote, and *Venom: Sinner Takes All #1–4* also contained a backup serial starring the Jury. These stories are presented in the following section.



Spider-Man Super Special pinup by **Pedi**

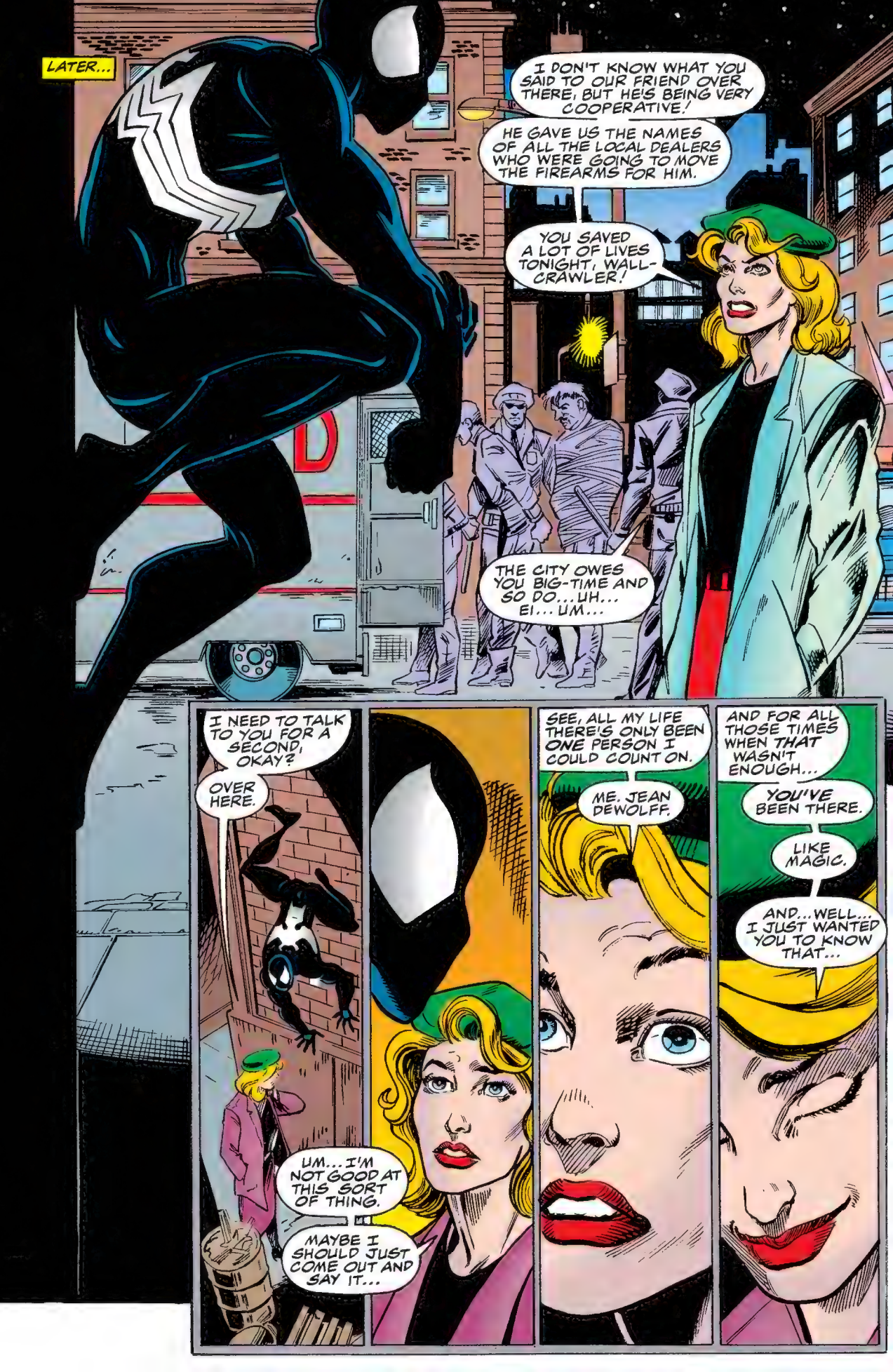

STAN LEE PRESENTS:
things undreamt of...
THERE WAS A TIME WHEN PETER PARKER DIDN'T KNOW...
...THAT THE ALIEN COSTUME HE'D BROUGHT BACK TO EARTH FROM THE SECRET WARS...
...WAS ALIVE!*
*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING ASM #256. --TOM
OR THAT IT OFTEN TOOK OVER HIS BODY WHILE HE SLEPT...
...AND VENTURED OUT INTO THE WORLD...
...WITH ALL THE POWERS OF SPIDER-MAN!
TO THIS DAY, HE DOESN'T REMEMBER THOSE NIGHTS AT ALL.

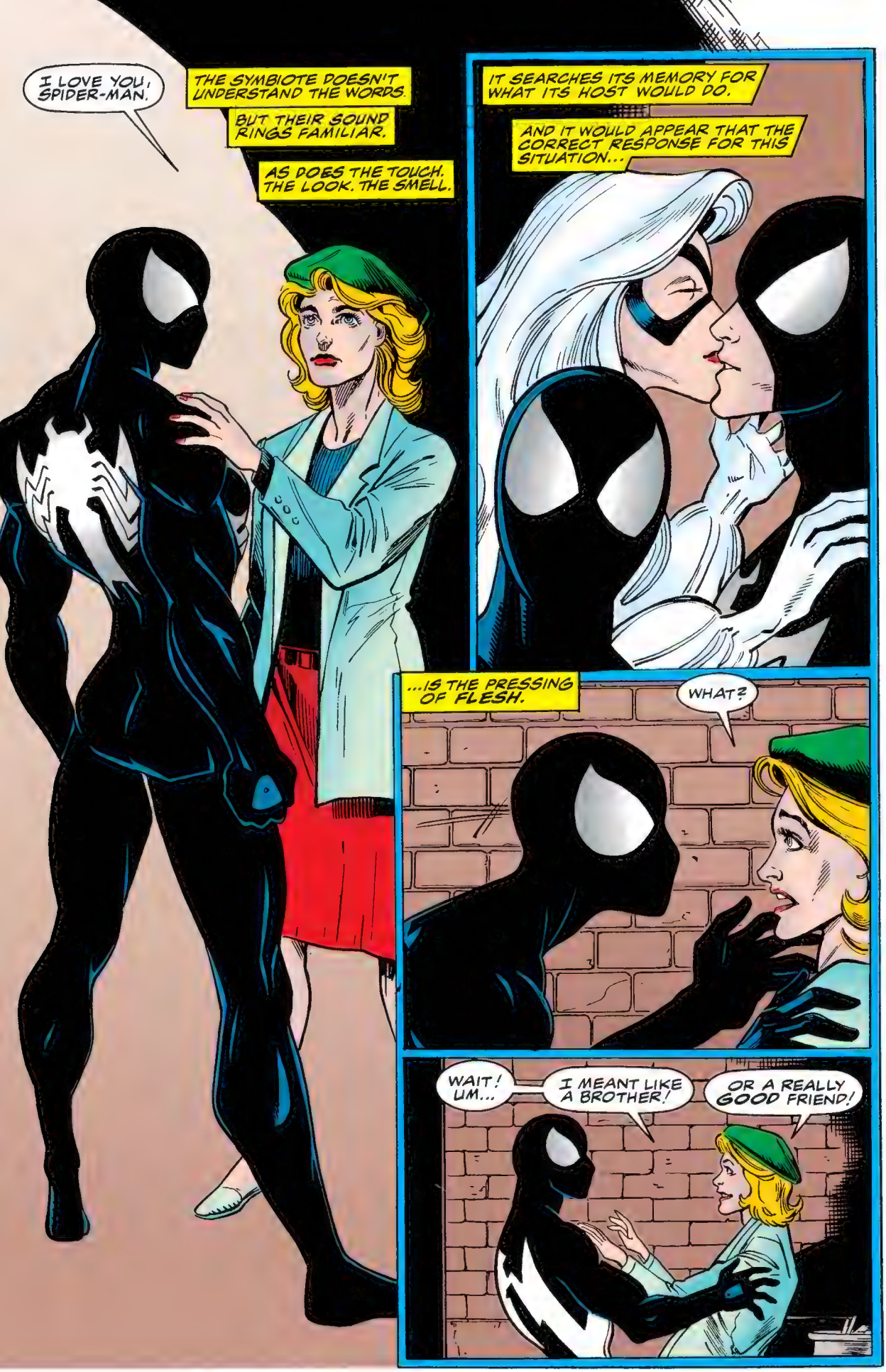

ATTENTION ALL UNITS! PLEASE RESPOND!
OFFICERS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE! PROCEED TO THE EAST SIDE ARMORY!
ALL OF YOU, STAY DOWN!
PCHOW PCHAW
BRATT BRATT
AHHH
THAT'S AN ORDER!
WE GOTTA PULL BACK, JEAN!
THOSE PUNKS THAT RAIDED THE ARMORY... THEY GOT ACCESS TO HOLLOW POINTS!
I KNOW! AND THAT MAKES US FISH IN A BARREL!
BUT WE CAN'T LET THEM GET THAT KINDA FIRE POWER ONTO THE STREETS!
CAPTAIN DEWOLFF! LOOK!
WHAT NOW?!
OH!
WELL IT'S ABOUT TIME!

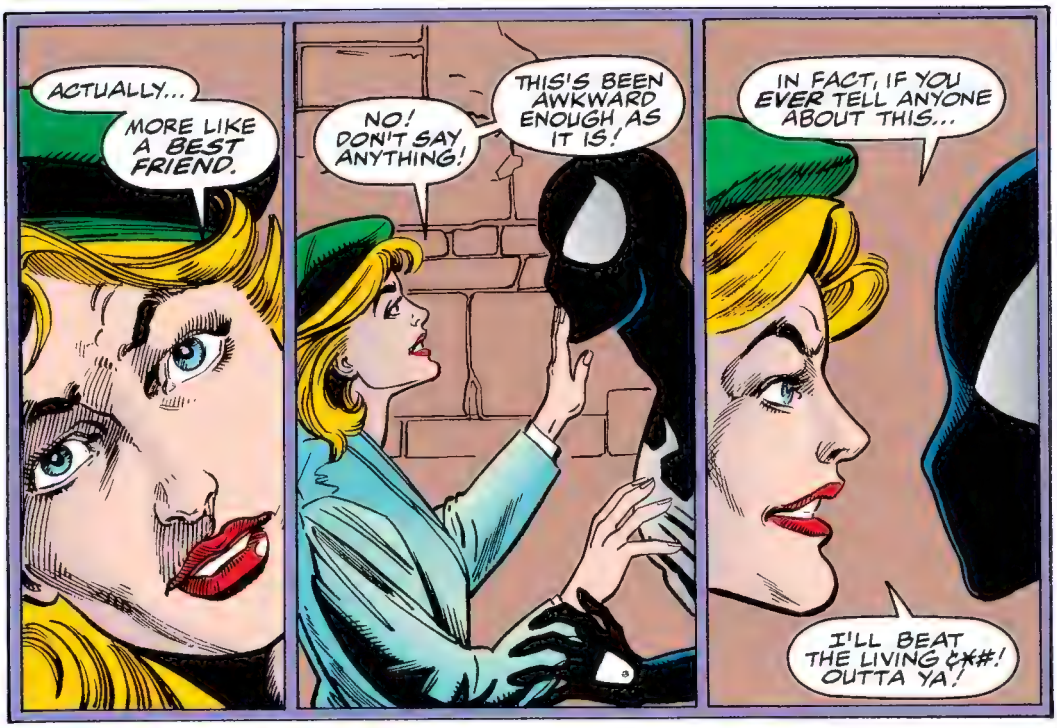

YOU CAN CANCEL THAT CALL FOR BACK-UP, BOYS!
THE CAVALRY'S HERE!

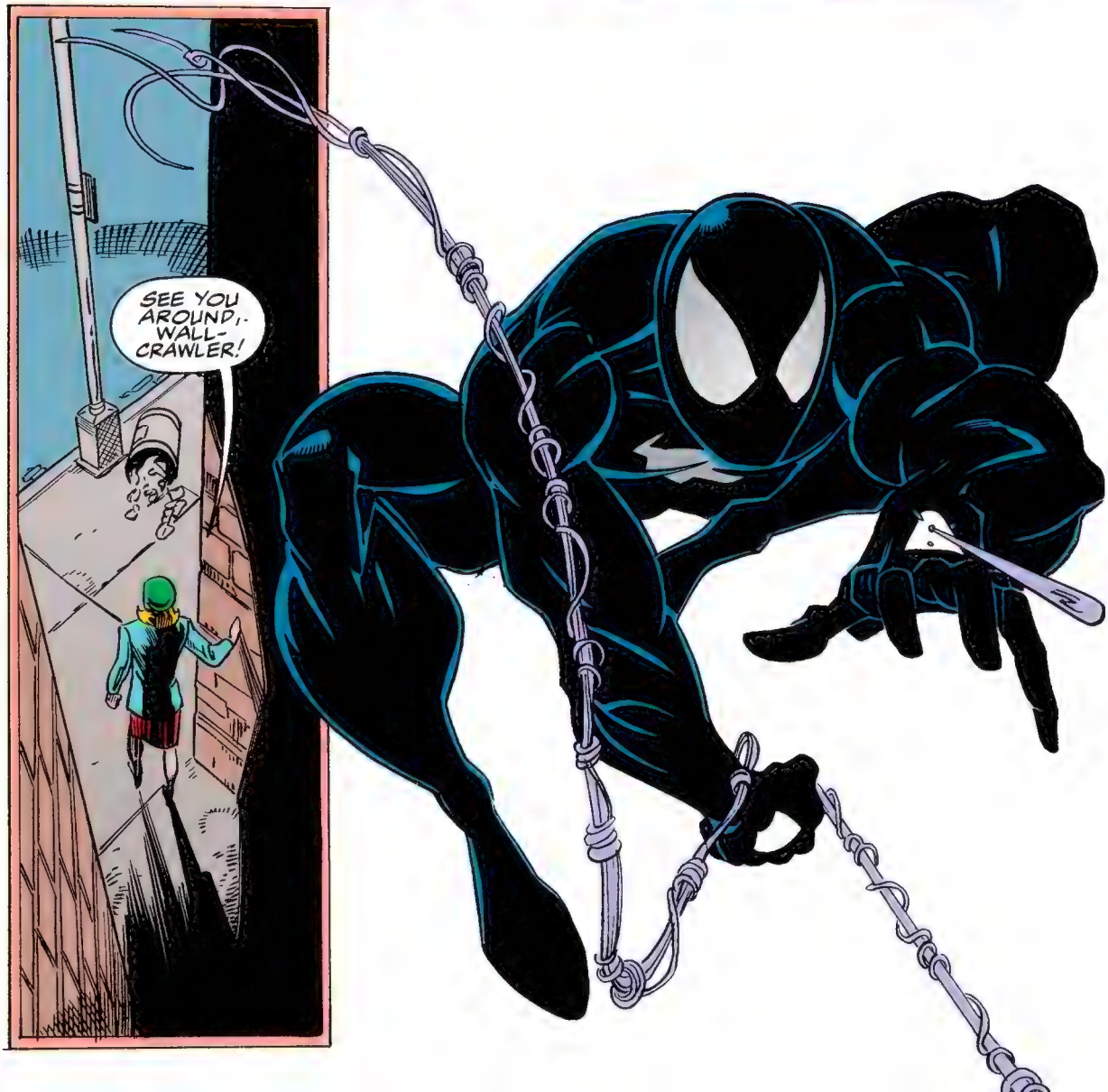

KAASSHH
KPOW
THOKK
SPIDER-MAN!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE!
VENTILATE 'IM!
WHAM
PRETTY GOOD, BUG!
BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH!

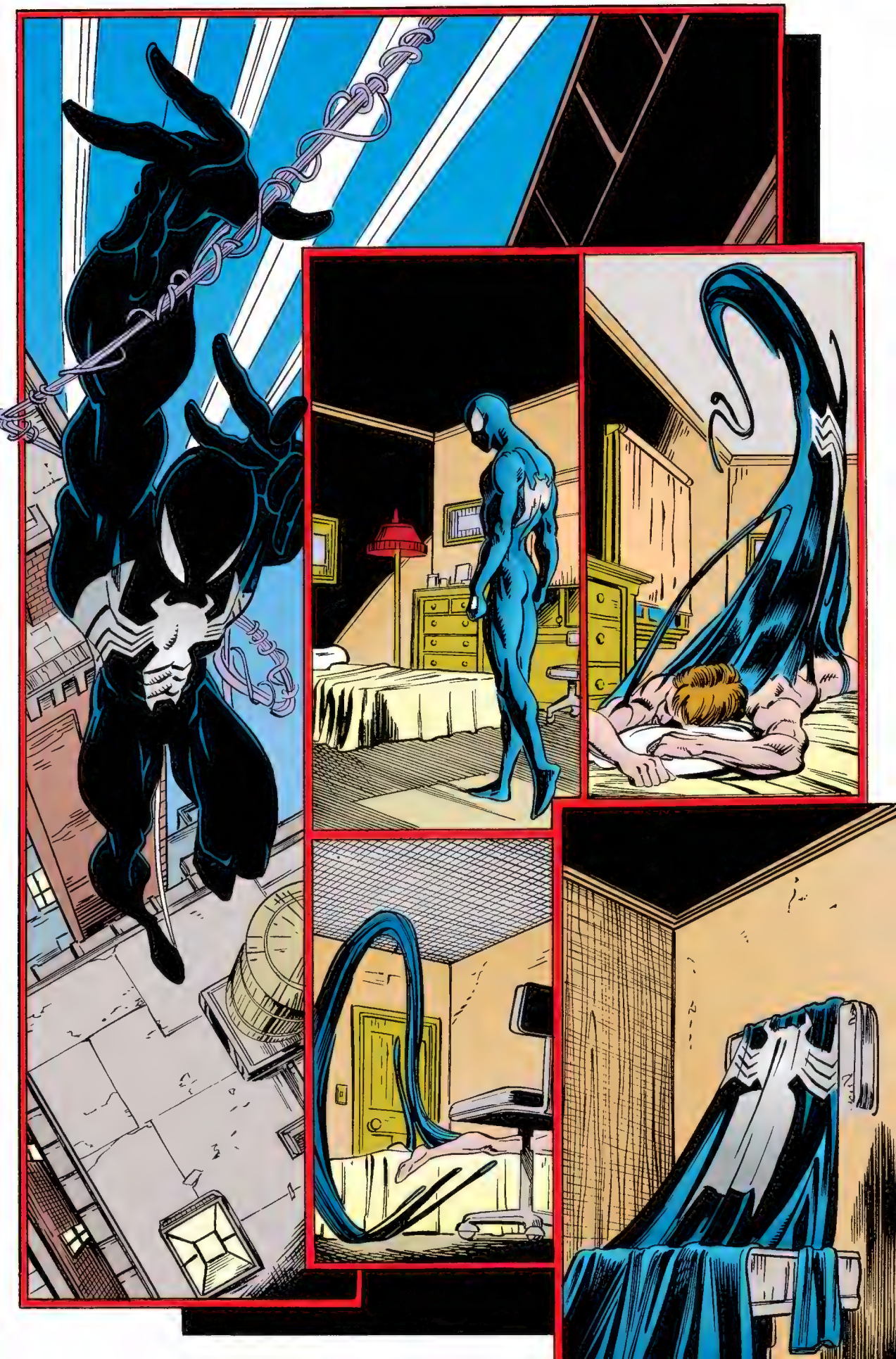

BRRRATTT
NO WAY!
NOTHIN' ALIVE'S THAT FAST! NOTHIN'!
FWIPP
PCHOW
POW
*C#!
YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
THWIPP
YOU'RE NOT...
AAGHH!
HHHSSSSSS!

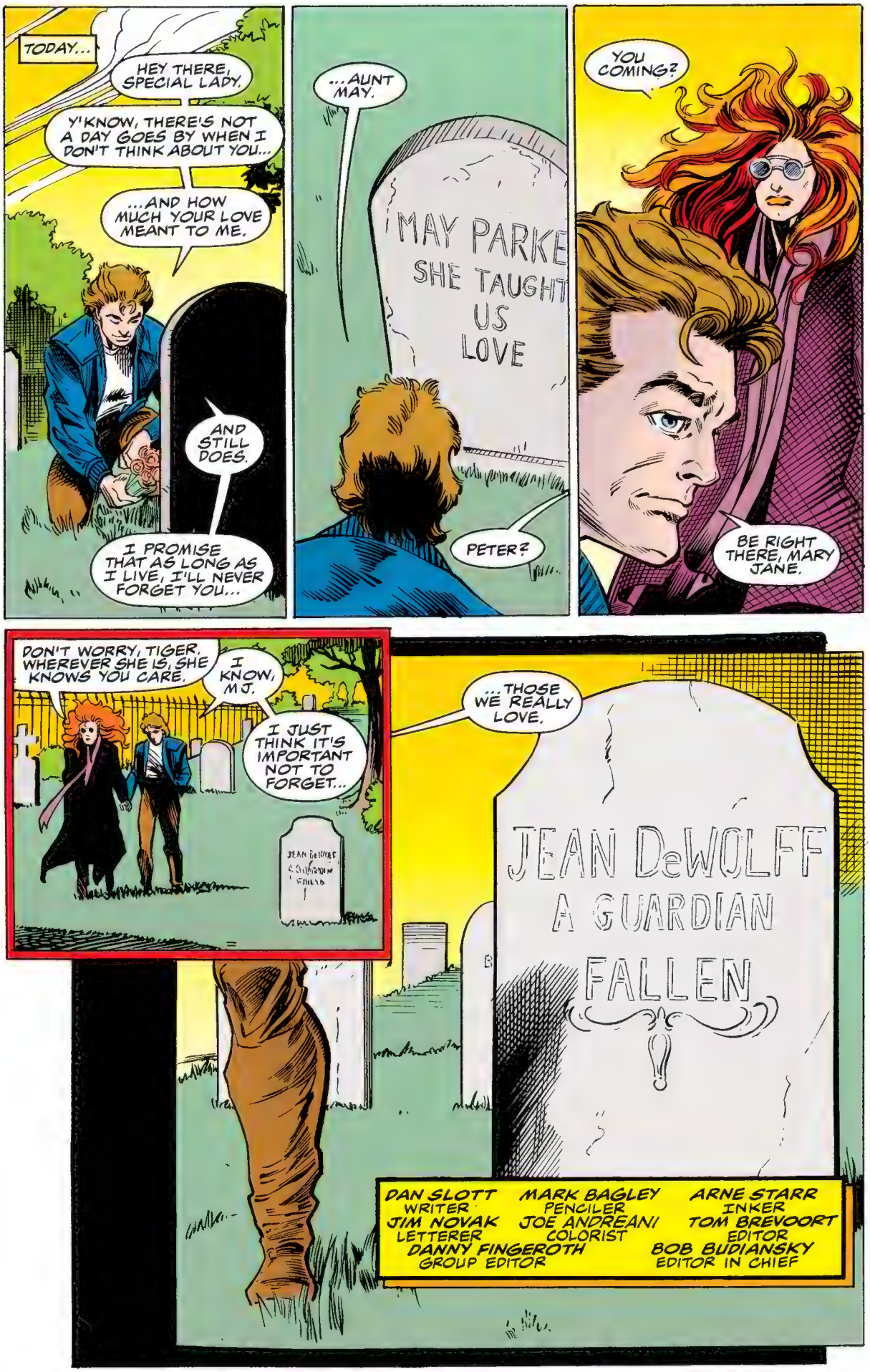

LATER...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SAID TO OUR FRIEND OVER THERE, BUT HE'S BEING VERY COOPERATIVE!
HE GAVE US THE NAMES OF ALL THE LOCAL DEALERS WHO WERE GOING TO MOVE THE FIREARMS FOR HIM.
YOU SAVED A LOT OF LIVES TONIGHT, WALL-CRAWLER!
THE CITY OWES YOU BIG-TIME AND SO DO... UH... EI... UM...
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND, OKAY?
OVER HERE.
UM... I'M NOT GOOD AT THIS SORT OF THING.
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT...
SEE, ALL MY LIFE THERE'S ONLY BEEN ONE PERSON I COULD COUNT ON.
ME. JEAN DEWOLFF.
AND FOR ALL THOSE TIMES WHEN THAT WASN'T ENOUGH...
YOU'VE BEEN THERE.
LIKE MAGIC.
AND... WELL... I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT...


I LOVE YOU, SPIDER-MAN.
THE SYMBIOTE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE WORDS.
BUT THEIR SOUND RINGS FAMILIAR.
AS DOES THE TOUCH. THE LOOK. THE SMELL.
IT SEARCHES ITS MEMORY FOR WHAT ITS HOST WOULD DO.
AND IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE CORRECT RESPONSE FOR THIS SITUATION...
...IS THE PRESSING OF FLESH.
WHAT?
WAIT! UM...
I MEANT LIKE A BROTHER!
OR A REALLY GOOD FRIEND!


ACTUALLY...
MORE LIKE A BEST FRIEND.
NO! DON'T SAY ANYTHING!
THIS'S BEEN AWKWARD ENOUGH AS IT IS!
IN FACT, IF YOU EVER TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS...
I'LL BEAT THE LIVING ¢%#! OUTTA YA!


SEE YOU AROUND, WALL-CRAWLER!




TODAY...
HEY THERE, SPECIAL LADY.
Y'KNOW, THERE'S NOT A DAY GOES BY WHEN I DON'T THINK ABOUT YOU...
...AND HOW MUCH YOUR LOVE MEANT TO ME.
AND STILL DOES.
I PROMISE THAT AS LONG AS I LIVE, I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU...
...AUNT MAY.
MAY PARKE
SHE TAUGHT US LOVE
PETER?
YOU COMING?
BE RIGHT THERE, MARY JANE.
DON'T WORRY, TIGER. WHEREVER SHE IS, SHE KNOWS YOU CARE.
I KNOW, MJ.
I JUST THINK IT'S IMPORTANT NOT TO FORGET...
...THOSE WE REALLY LOVE.
JEAN DeWOLFF
A GUARDIAN
FALLEN
DAN SLOTT
WRITER
MARK BAGLEY
PENCILER
ARNE STARR
INKER
JIM NOVAK
LETTERER
JOE ANDREANI
COLORIST
TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR
DANNY FINGEROTH
GROUP EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY
EDITOR IN CHIEF


THERE'S POWER IN NOTHINGNESS.
A WELL OF NOWHERE YOU CAN DRAW STRENGTH FROM.
A PLACE BEYOND FEELINGS, HOPES, OR PAIN.
JENNY STEWART FELL INTO THAT VOID YEARS AGO.
AND TODAY, WHETHER SHE LIKES IT OR NOT...
... SHE'S GETTING PULLED OUT.
HEY! EARTH TO JENNY!
HULLOO!
YO, WONDER WOMAN, THE MAIL'S IN!
HMM. THANKS, CLAIRE.
NO THANKS NEEDED, ROOMIE.
JUST LET ME IN ON THE BIG SECRET.
I MEAN, JEEZ, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN YOU GET MAIL!
WELL OUTSIDE OF BILLS...
...N' THINGS MARKED "OCCUPANT."
OH, AND LETTERS FROM ED McMAHON...
Y'KNOW, "JENNY STEWART, YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY WON TEN MILLION..."
YES!


GOTTA GO!
M'NOT BACK IN A MONTH, RENT CHECK'S IN THE PENNY JAR...
AND DON'T FORGET TO WATER THE PLANTS!
JEN?
WHOA! WHAT PUSHED HER DE-FROST BUTTON?
A NOTICE FOR...
... JURY DUTY?!
OFF THE COAST OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STANDS THE FACTORY COMPLEX OF EQUITY, INC.
FOR THE RECORD, THEY MAKE OFFICE FURNITURE.
FOR A BETTER TOMORROW!
EQUITY Inc.
OFF THE RECORD, THEY'RE A FRONT FOR THE VIGILANTE ORGANIZATION CALLED THE JURY.
ATTENTION: ALTERNATE JURIST STEWART, REPORT TO THE SIMULATOR IMMEDIATELY!
THIS IS IT, JEN!
DON'T BLOW IT!
DON'T BLOW IT!
DON'T BLOW IT!
ALL RIGHT, KID. YOU'VE MADE IT THIS FAR THROUGH THE JURY SELECTION PROCESS...
YOU'RE READY FOR THE FINAL TEST.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FIND AND CAPTURE THE FLAG...



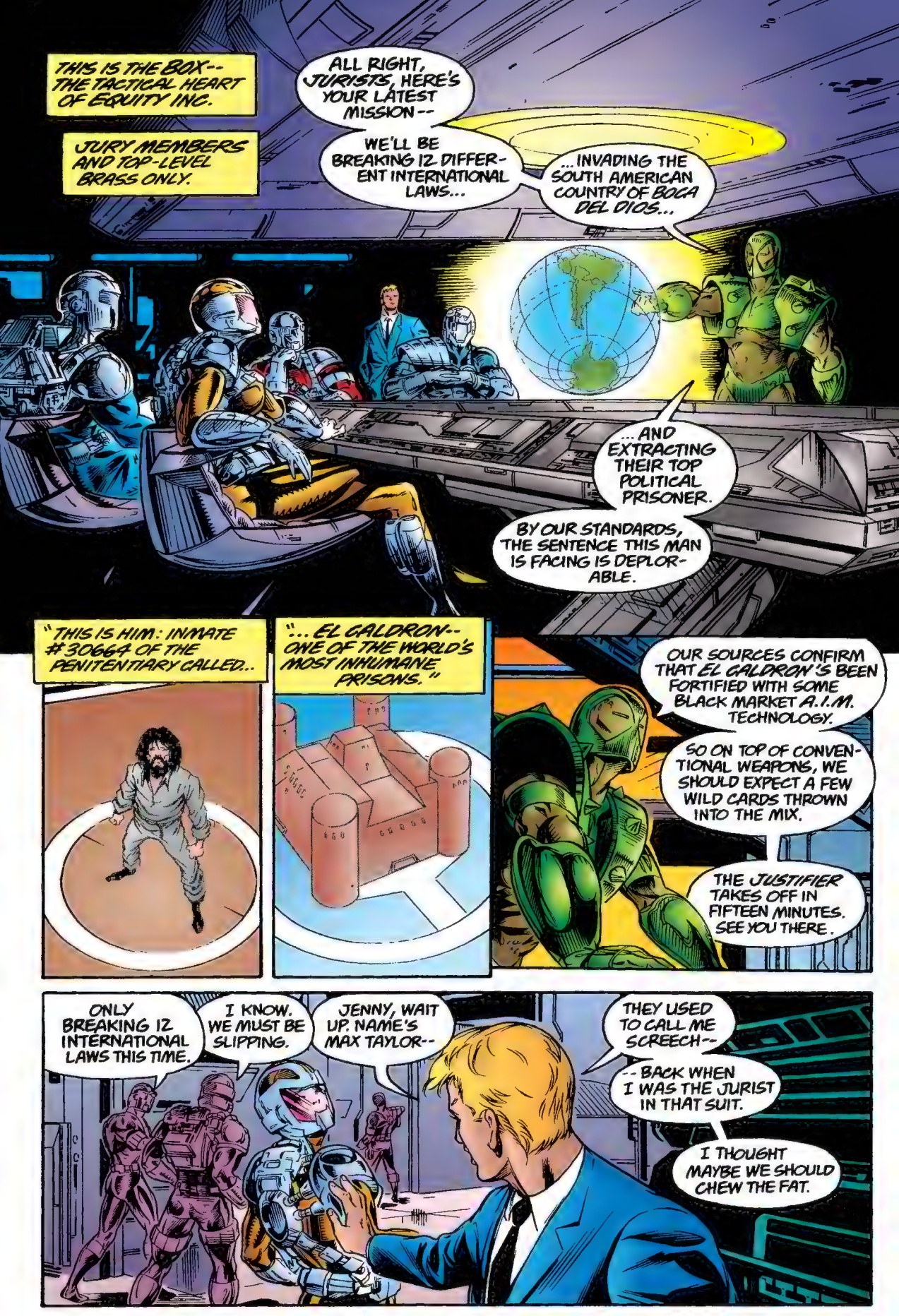
THE JURY in TRIAL RUN: Part One
TOUR OF JURY DUTY

DAN SLOTT • writer
JOHN CALIMEE • penciler
GREG ADAMS • inker
JOHN COSTANZA • letterer
MARK BERNARDO • colorist
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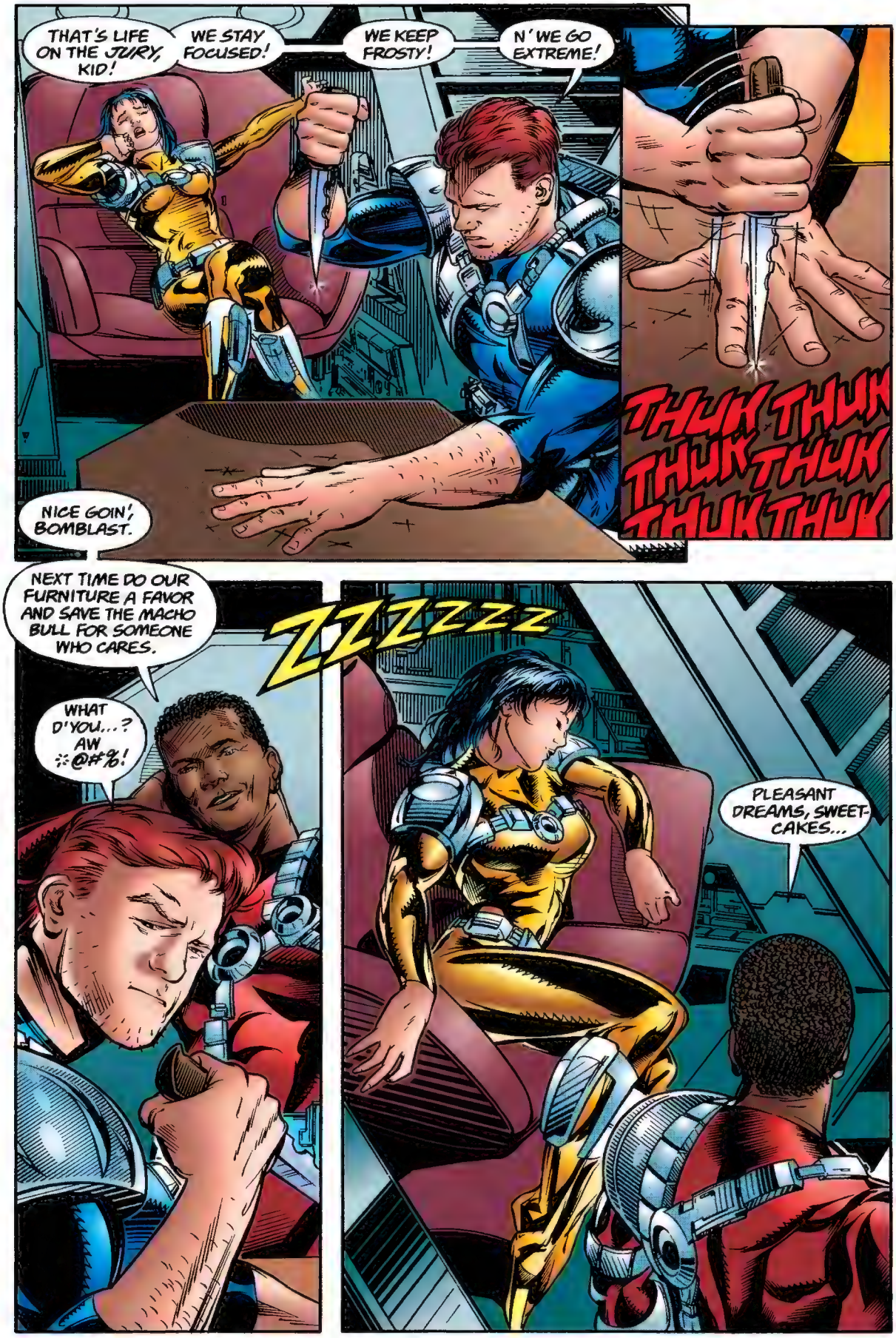

FFFSSS
FIREARM?!
TAG, SWEETCAKES!
YOU'RE TOASTED!
OOPH
THWAK
HOPE YOU LIKED YOUR TEN SECONDS IN THE MAJORS, KID.
'CAUSE BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS, YOU'RE GETTING SHIPPED BACK DOW--
WHA'?! YOUR FLIGHT DISK?!
SWISHHH
NO, RAMSHOT, YOUR FLIGHT DISK.
ENJOY THE TRIP!
WHOA!


RISKY MOVE. SUIT'S ONLY GOT ONE SPARE DISK.
I'M SURE SHE KNOWS THAT, MAX.
JENNY AND HER HUSBAND RYAN WERE THE FINEST MEN ON MY DETAIL.
UM...NO DISRESPECT TO YOUR BROTHER...
HUGH WAS JUST A KID, SENTRY. HE LACKED GUTS, AND FOCUS.
TWO THINGS ALL YOUR "FINEST" VAULT PRISON GUARDS HAD.*
I WASN'T SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD VENOM KILLED HUGH DURING A BREAKOUT.
* The super-villain prison of the Marvel U. --TOM
BUT DAD, THE GREAT GENERAL ORWELL TAYLOR, DIDN'T SEE IT THAT WAY!
HE SPENT OUR ENTIRE FAMILY FORTUNE TO FORM THE JURY AND HUNT THAT ALIEN-FREAK DOWN!
THE WHOLE ORDEAL TWISTED HIM...
I WAS WITH DAD IN THE END, SENTRY. AND LET ME TELL YOU, HE'D BECOME MORE OF A VILLAIN THAN VENOM EVER WAS!*
* As seen in the VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR and ARACHNIS PROJECT ltd. series. --TOM
THAT'S WHY WE'RE KEEPING THE JURY ALIVE, MAX! BECAUSE OF THE VENOMS AND ORWELL TAYLORS--
ALL THOSE WHO THINK THEIR POWER PUTS THEM ABOVE WHAT'S RIGHT.
AND WE'RE TRUSTING YOU TO BE OUR STOP-GAP. MAKING SURE WE DON'T HEAD DOWN YOUR FATHER'S PATH...
"...AND FALL INTO THAT TRAP!"
SHRAKK
GOTCHA!
BIG GUN YOU GOT THERE, BOMBLAST!


TRY AIMING IT SOMETIME!
THE FLAG!
HEY, ROOKIE!
THANKS FOR THE TIP!
CHUOM
YAHH!
WUMPHH
UH... GUYS... I GOT HALF A FLAG...
SO AM I HALF IN... OR HALF OUT?
IN.
"IN"? DID HE SAY "IN"?
HE SAID "IN," RIGHT?
YEP. YOU DID IT, BABE!
YOU EARNED YOUR SEAT IN THE JURY BOX!


THIS IS THE BOX-- THE TACTICAL HEART OF EQUITY INC.
JURY MEMBERS AND TOP-LEVEL BRASS ONLY.
ALL RIGHT, JURISTS, HERE'S YOUR LATEST MISSION--
WE'LL BE BREAKING 12 DIFFERENT INTERNATIONAL LAWS...
...INVADING THE SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY OF BOCA DEL DIOS...
...AND EXTRACTING THEIR TOP POLITICAL PRISONER.
BY OUR STANDARDS, THE SENTENCE THIS MAN IS FACING IS DEPLORABLE.
"THIS IS HIM: INMATE #30664 OF THE PENITENTIARY CALLED..
"...EL CALDRON-- ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST INHUMANE PRISONS."
OUR SOURCES CONFIRM THAT EL CALDRON'S BEEN FORTIFIED WITH SOME BLACK MARKET A.I.M. TECHNOLOGY.
SO ON TOP OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, WE SHOULD EXPECT A FEW WILD CARDS THROWN INTO THE MIX.
THE JUSTIFIER TAKES OFF IN FIFTEEN MINUTES. SEE YOU THERE.
ONLY BREAKING 12 INTERNATIONAL LAWS THIS TIME.
I KNOW. WE MUST BE SLIPPING.
JENNY, WAIT UP. NAME'S MAX TAYLOR--
THEY USED TO CALL ME SCREECH--
--BACK WHEN I WAS THE JURIST IN THAT SUIT.
I THOUGHT MAYBE WE SHOULD CHEW THE FAT.


THEY GIVEN YOU A HANDLE YET?
THE GUYS DECIDED ON "WYSPER."
IT'S 'CAUSE I CAPTURED THE FLAG WITHOUT USING MY SUIT'S SONICS.
BIT OF A NERVOUS MISTAKE, REALLY.
I MEAN, THAT'S MY GREATEST WEAPON, RIGHT?
NO. THE SUIT'S A SUIT.
AND THERE'RE BIGGER AND BETTER SUITS OUT THERE.
SUPER-POWERS, SYMBIOTES, YOU NAME IT.
YOU HAVE TO BE THE WEAPON, JENNY. 'CAUSE IN THE END THAT'S ALL YOU'VE GOT.
AS THE JURY'S GUNSHIP, THE JUSTIFIER, TEARS ACROSS THE PACIFIC...
... MAX TAYLOR'S WORDS PLAY OVER IN JENNY'S HEAD...
...AND SHE WONDERS IF SHE'S REALLY READY FOR ALL OF THIS.
E.T.A. TWO AND A HALF HOURS, JURISTS. LIGHT 'EM IF YOU GOT 'EM.
HEY, CAP. WE GET AN INFLIGHT MOVIE ON THIS CRATE?
COOL! WHO'S IN IT?
YES, SAM, IT'S CALLED "RAMSHOT SHUTS THE @#%& UP!"
FWIPP
YOU OKAY, BABE?
I KNOW I WAS A BIT HARD ON YOU IN THE SIMULATOR--
--BUT WE DON'T PULL PUNCHES IN THIS UNIT.
S'OKAY.


THAT'S LIFE ON THE JURY, KID!
WE STAY FOCUSED!
WE KEEP FROSTY!
N' WE GO EXTREME!
NICE GOIN', BOMBLAST.
THUK THUK THUK THUK THUK THUK
NEXT TIME DO OUR FURNITURE A FAVOR AND SAVE THE MACHO BULL FOR SOMEONE WHO CARES.
WHAT D'YOU...? AW ::@#%!
ZZZzzz
PLEASANT DREAMS, SWEET-CAKES...


PLEASANT DREAMS...
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER, BABY.
C'MON, RUN!
IT'S NO USE! THE WHOLE VAULT'S FALLING APART!
WE'RE GOING TO DIE HERE! WE'RE BOTH GOING TO DIE!
I'M NOT GONNA LET THAT HAPPEN!
THE AVENGERS ARE ALREADY ON THEIR WAY*!
THE SECURITY GATES!
WE CAN MAKE IT!
THEY'RE CLOSING!
GO, JENNY! GO!
*See VENOM: DEATHTRAP: THE VAULT graphic novel!--TOM
RYAN!
WE GOT HOSTAGES--LOTS OF 'EM!
SLAMMM


ALL THE GUARDSMEN...
...AND ANYONE ELSE DUMB ENOUGH...
...TO BE IN OUR REACH!
AND ONE OF 'EM'S GOING TO DIE...
NO!
AAHH
KRAK
RUNCH
WUDD
SPLUTCH
KRAK
GOING TO DIE!
GOING TO DIE!
GOING TO DIE!
NOOO!
WYSPER!
RISE N' SHINE, SOLDIER! WE'RE THERE!
TIME TO MAKE THE JUMP!
YEEEHAAA!
TOP A' WORLD, MA!
TOP OF THE @*#!-ING WORLD!
COURT'S IN SESSION, JURY--
HIT 'EM HARD, N' HIT 'EM FAST!


EEEERRRR


OH MY GOD.
WHAT HAVE WE DONE?
ENNHH HHUNH
URRKK AKK
AHHH!
¡MADRE DE DIOS!
WYSPER!
GIRL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WHAT HAVE WE DONE?
INCOMING!
GET DOWN!
WHEE
BAMM
THE TEAM'S COUNTING ON YOU, STEWART!
GET IN THE GAME-- NOW!
BUT...


NO! NO "BUTS"! GET TO IT!
OR, SO HELP ME, IF THEY DON'T TAKE YOU OUT OF THIS EQUATION...
...I WILL!
FIRE!
SHRAKKK
I'M SORRY... I...I...
DON'T BOTHER, GIRL. I WAS LIKE YOU ONCE.
'TIL I REALIZED WHAT IT MEANT TO BE ON THIS TEAM.
I KNOW YOU'LL GET IT.
N' THAT'S WHY I'M TRUSTING YOU TO WATCH MY BACK.
RAMSHOT, WAIT...


SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT. THIS'S BEEN TOO EASY!
NAH! WE'RE JUST THAT GOOD!
DON'T KID YOURSELF, SOLDIER.
HHSSSHHHH
HHSSSHHH
OUR INTELLIGENCE SAID THE BOCANS HAD ACCESS TO BLACK MARKET A.I.M. TECHNOLOGY.
SO WHERE THE @#*!! IS IT?!
SHHOOOM
AAHHH
CHOOM CHOOM CHOOM
FIREARM!
OMMIGOD! WHAT WAS THAT! IT WAS SO FAST, I--
KRCHOOM
ARGGH
CHOOM CHOOM
BOMBLAST!


CEASE AND DESIST...
...OR DIE BY THE HANDS OF THE DREAD-NAUGHTS!
UM... SENTRY...
I THINK I FOUND THAT A.I.M. TECH YOU WERE LOOKIN' FOR.
GOOD JOB THERE, SAM.
DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITH-OUT YOU.
TO BE CONTINUED!


THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
THE FINAL DESTINATION OF A CHARTERED FLIGHT NOT LISTED ON ANY OFFICIAL MANIFESTS OR LOGS.
NO WATCHES, CELLULAR PHONES, OR COMPUTERS ARE ALLOWED ON BOARD.
A SPECIAL CABIN SUSPENSION ALTERS WITH EACH COURSE CHANGE--
--DISTORTING EVERY PASSENGER'S SENSE OF DIRECTION.
AND THEN THERE ARE THE WINDOWS.
ONE-WAY MIRRORS, FACING THE WRONG WAY.
MISS? WE'RE ABOUT TO LAND.
I NEED YOU TO PUT ON THIS SENSORY DE-PRIVOR BEFORE WE DEPLANE.
MISS? I...
OH... I'M SORRY, MS. LENTZ. I FORGOT IT WAS YOU.
SIR? I NEED YOU TO PUT ON THIS SENSORY--
EN ESPAÑOL, POR FAVOR.
SÍ. LO SIENTO, SEÑOR.
THE LANDING GEAR BUMPS AGAINST THE GROUND.
AND OLIVIA LENTZ IS ONE STEP CLOSER TO HER NEW HOME.
WHEREVER IT MAY BE.


OLIVIA? OLIVIA LENTZ?
AND YOU MUST BE MAX TAYLOR?
YUP. TODAY, I'M YOUR EQUITY INC. WELCOME WAGON.
BUT COME TRIAL TIME...
... I'M GONNA BE THE FELLA BEHIND THE OTHER BENCH.
A JOHNNY COCHRAN TO MY MARCIA CLARK?
PERISH THE THOUGHT.
SO WHERE'S THE REST OF THE BIG WIGS?
FAR AS OUR JUDGE, THE GAVEL, GOES...
...NO ONE, BUT NO ONE, SEES HIM BEFORE A TRIAL.
AND THE JURY?
"WELL, THEY'RE KINDA BUSY AT THE MOMENT."
FIREARM! BOMBLAST! YOU ALL RIGHT?!
M'OKAY, SIR.
B.B.? HOW YOU DOIN', MAN?
I'M COMIN'...



THE JURY in TRIAL RUN:

PAST THE BARS

Last time:

The JURY invaded the South American country of BOCA DEL DIOS in order to extract their top political prisoner. Everything was going smoothly, until they ran into a cache of deadly DREADNAUGHTS.

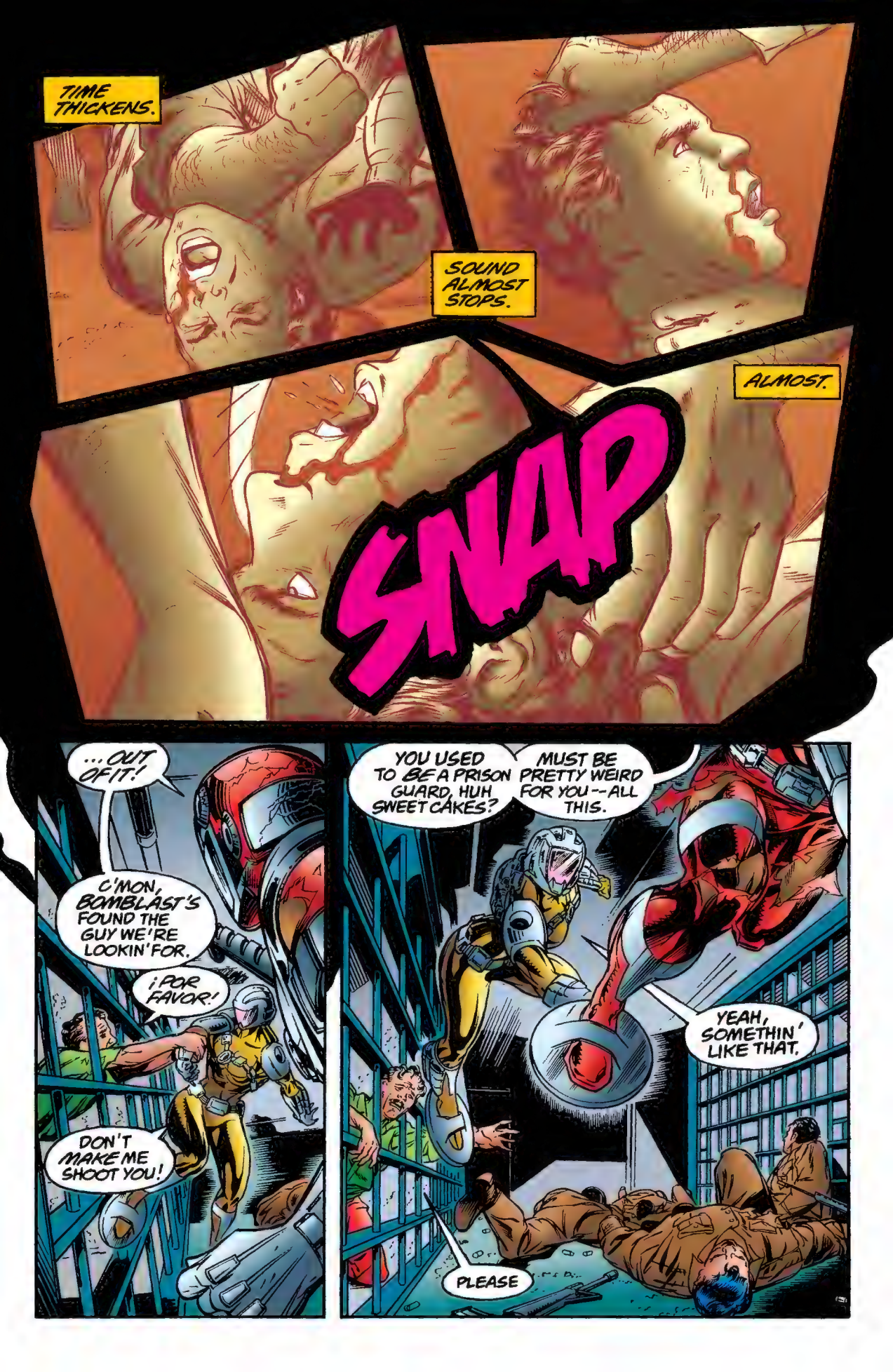
SLOTT-writer• CALIMEE-penciler• ADAMS-inker• COSTANZA-letterer• BERNARDO-colorist• BREVOORT-editor• BUDIANSKY-chief


YOU WILL BE DESTROYED!
SHRAK
MY SONICS AREN'T STOPPING IT!
I NEED SOME HELP OVER HERE!
*&#@! WYSPER!
RAISE YOUR WEAPON SETTINGS!
THOSE AREN'T MEN IN SUITS, THEY'RE JUST MACHINES!
SENTRY!
YOU'RE REALLY DISAPPOINTING ME, SOLDIER!
KTHUNG
NO ONE ESCAPES THE DREADNAU--EKZZ


GET IN GEAR, PEOPLE!
AND GET THERE FAST!
WHUM
"BY NOW, THE BOCANS HAVE MOBILIZED THEIR AIR FORCE."
"I GIVE IT TWELVE MINUTES TOPS...
..."TILL WE'RE UP TO OUR EYE-TEETH IN GUNSHIPS."
WHAT DO WE DO, SIR??
CHANGE IN PLANS.
RAMSHOT AND I'LL HOLD OFF THE REMAINING DREADNAUGHTS.
BOMBLAST, WYSPER, FIREARM-- COMPLETE THE MISSION!
GO!
YOU WILL BE D-D-DESTROY-OIIIID--


IT'S PARTY TIME!
B.Y.O.G.!
BY THE NUMBERS, BOYS AND GIRLS.
FORM A WEDGE, GOLD TAKE THE POINT!
ALL RIGHT, JURY
TAKE NO PRISONERS!
KRUNCH
WELL, 'CEPT THE ONE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO TAKE, 'NATCH!
AAAIIII
AKER
BRAKT
PCHAW
YAAA
SHRAKK


AMERICAN DOGS!
YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN OUR BOCAN DEATH SQUADS!
YOU THINK YOUR GUNS AND YOUR WEAPONS GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
BLAM
YEAH?!
AND?!!
UH...
NADA.
LADY! PLEASE! DON'T LEAVE US LIKE THIS!
OPEN THE DOORS! OPEN THE DOORS!
FOR WYSAER IT ONLY TAKES A TOUCH, A LOOK, A MOMENT.
AND EVERYTHING'S RISING BACK TO THE SURFACE.
THE PAIN, THE FEAR, THE PAST.
DEAR GOD, PLEASE! RYAN!
REACHING PAST THE BARS.


TIME THICKENS.
SOUND ALMOST STOPS.
ALMOST.
SNAP
...OUT OF IT!
C'MON, BOMBLAST'S FOUND THE GUY WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR.
¡POR FAVOR!
DON'T MAKE ME SHOOT YOU!
YOU USED TO BE A PRISON GUARD, HUH SWEET CAKES?
MUST BE PRETTY WEIRD FOR YOU--ALL THIS.
YEAH, SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.
PLEASE


BUDDA-BING?
BUDDA-BOOM!
JACKPOT, MY FRIEND!
RRENCHH
UM... PRISONER #30664.
CONSIDER YOURSELF SPRUNG, COURTESY OF THE JUR--
I ANSWER TO MANY NAMES.
I WILL NOT ANSWER TO A NUMBER.
SIR, THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME...
ALVAREZ.
YOU MAY CALL ME CAPTAIN LUIS ALVAREZ.


OUTSIDE.
UNNH
CHOOM
KEEP YOUR PANTYHOSE ON, BOYS!
CAVALRY'S HERE!
HANG IN, SAM!
OTHERS COUNTING ON--
COUNTING ON--
YEE HA!
DIE!
CHOOM
STEREO! COOL!


HEADS UP, TEAM!
JUSTIFIER* AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK!
SHE'S COMIN' IN FAST!
EVERY-BODY FALL BACK, NOW!
KBOOM
* The Jury's transport ship. --Tom
SQUAWKKK--
INCOMING!
WHHAM

FLYBOY, THERE'S A WHOLE UNIT HERE THAT WANTS YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE!
BETTER BE A SHORT CEREMONY, SIR!
'CAUSE WE GOT A LOT A' UNINVITED GUESTS HEADIN' FOR OUR BACK PORCH!


AND I DON'T THINK THEY'RE HERE TO CATCH NO BOUQUET.
UNDER-STOOD.
SO LET'S OPEN THIS BABY UP AND HAUL--
AAAHH!
SENTRY!
SNATCH
NO ONE ES-ES-ESCAPES
THE DREADNA-NA-NAUGHTS!
I'VE GOT YOU!


YOU WILL BE-BE-BE-BE
DESTROYED!
*@%#!
THE JUSTIFIER CAN'T HANDLE THIS!
SHE'S NOT LEVEL-ING OFF!
LET GO, JENNY!
NO!
NO TIME TO ARGUE!
N-N-NO
I'M ORDERING YOU!
LET GO!
N-NO
GNNH
THAT'S A NO CAN DO, CAPTAIN!
N-NO ONE


ES-ES-ES-ESCAPES
POP
SHOOM
THE DREADNAU-XXXXXZZ
"GENTLEMEN, WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS..."
... I WISH TO COMMEND YOU ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE.
THE EXTRACTION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.
¡Y GRACIAS! FOR THIS I OWE YOU ALL A DEBT OF--
SHUT UP! SAM?!
YES SIR.
RAMSHOT! WHAT ARE YOU--?
PAH!
YAH
HNH?
¿QUE ES...?


LATER, BACK AT EQUITY INC.
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO SAVE THIS MAN...
THE JURY DOESN'T "SAVE," WYSPER, IT PROTECTS.


"PROTECTS THE WORLD FROM MEN LIKE THIS LUIS ALVAREZ.


"WE TOLD YOU BEFORE--


"BY OUR STANDARDS, THE SENTENCE HE WAS FACING...
"...WAS DEPLORABLE.


"HE HAD JUST BEEN SERVING A LIFE-TERM.


¿DONDE...?
WHERE AM I?
"AND THAT WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIM."


LUIS ALVAREZ, YOU STAND BEFORE THIS COURT...
...CHARGED WITH HEINOUS ACTS AGAINST THE COMMON MAN.
CRIMES YOU COMMITTED AS...
...LA TARANTULA!
LET THE TRIAL BEGIN!
TO BE CONTINUED



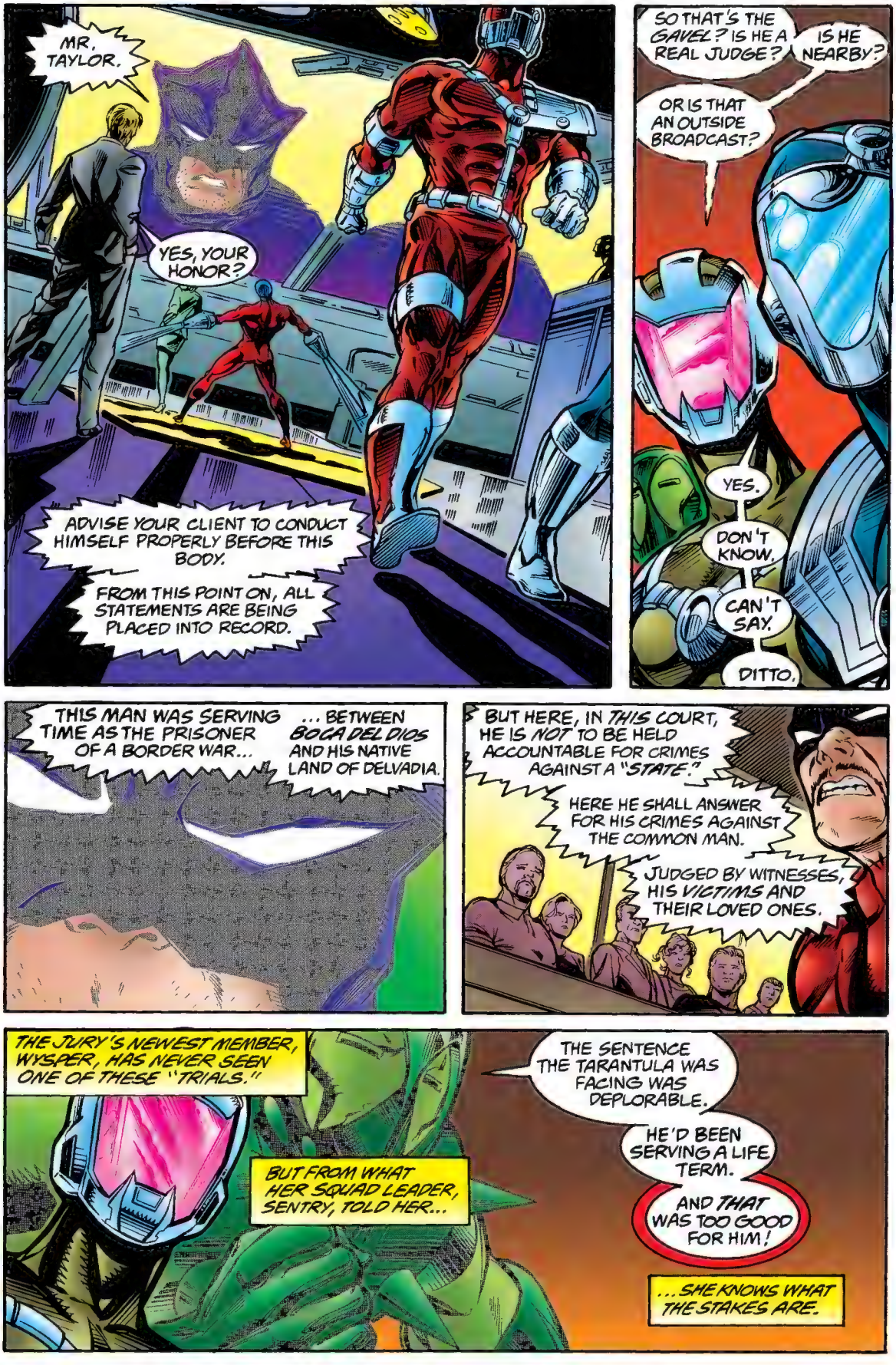
THE JURY in TRIAL RUN

PART THREE

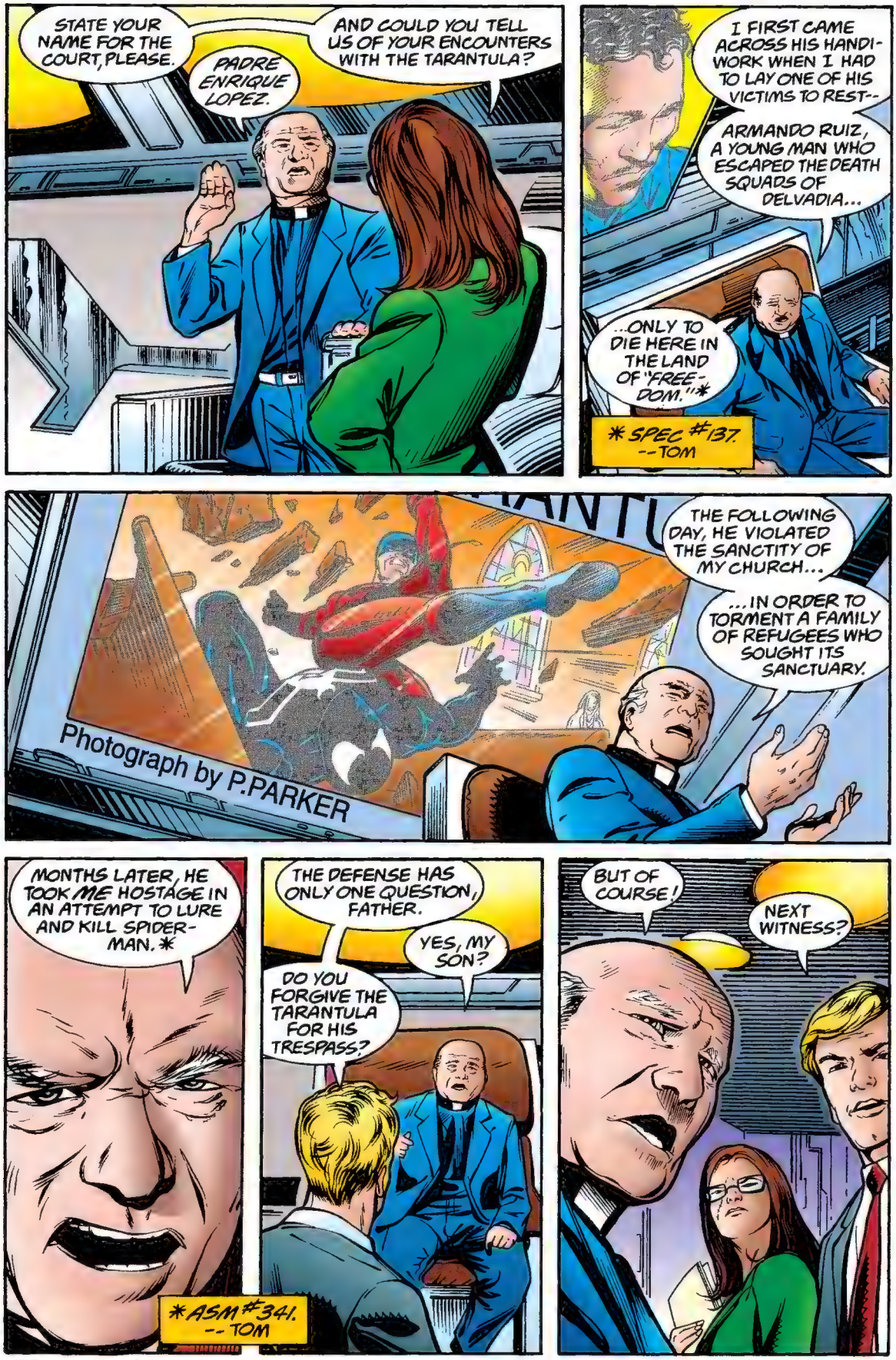
MARTIAL LAWYERS

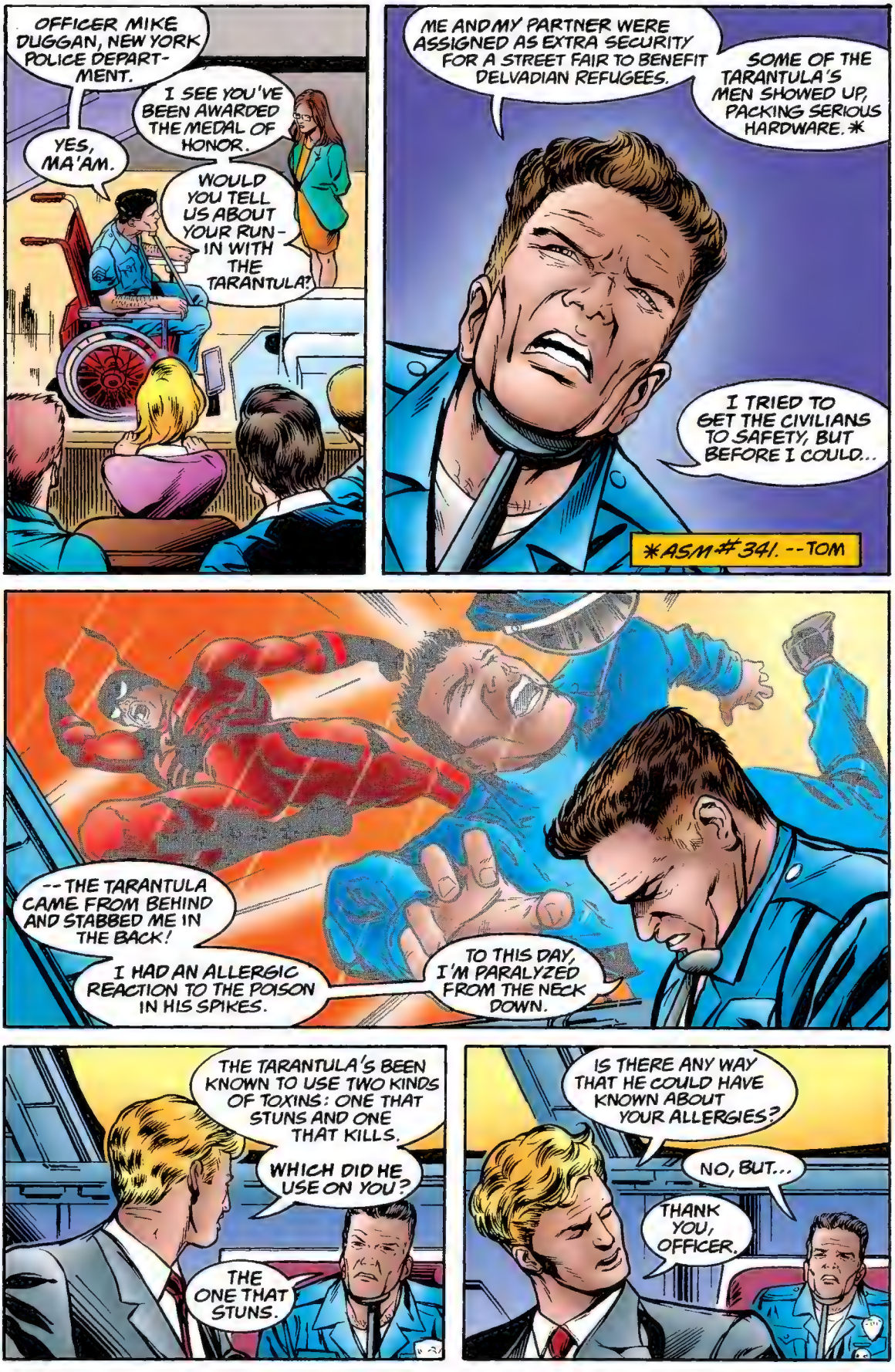
Last time:
The JURY freed THE TARANTULA from EL CALDRON, one of the world's most inhumane prisons. But now back at the JURY'S secret base, it appears that THEIR motives were anything but "humane"...

DAN SLOTTwriter-JOHN CALIMEEpenciler-GREG ADAMSinker
JOHN COSTANZAletterer-MARK BERNARDOcolorist-TOM BREVOORTeditor
BOB BUDIANSKYeditor in chief


MR. TAYLOR.
YES, YOUR HONOR?
ADVISE YOUR CLIENT TO CONDUCT HIMSELF PROPERLY BEFORE THIS BODY.
FROM THIS POINT ON, ALL STATEMENTS ARE BEING PLACED INTO RECORD.
SO THAT'S THE GAVEL? IS HE A REAL JUDGE?
IS HE NEARBY?
OR IS THAT AN OUTSIDE BROADCAST?
YES.
DON'T KNOW.
CAN'T SAY.
DITTO.
THIS MAN WAS SERVING TIME AS THE PRISONER OF A BORDER WAR...
... BETWEEN BOCA DEL DIOS AND HIS NATIVE LAND OF DELVADIA.
BUT HERE, IN THIS COURT, HE IS NOT TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR CRIMES AGAINST A "STATE."
HERE HE SHALL ANSWER FOR HIS CRIMES AGAINST THE COMMON MAN.
JUDGED BY WITNESSES, HIS VICTIMS AND THEIR LOVED ONES.
THE JURY'S NEWEST MEMBER, WYSPER, HAS NEVER SEEN ONE OF THESE "TRIALS."
BUT FROM WHAT HER SQUAD LEADER, SENTRY, TOLD HER...
THE SENTENCE THE TARANTULA WAS FACING WAS DEPLORABLE.
HE'D BEEN SERVING A LIFE TERM.
AND THAT WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIM!
... SHE KNOWS WHAT THE STAKES ARE.


CAPTAIN ALVAREZ, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
NAME'S MAX TAYLOR. I'M YOUR DEFENSE COUNSEL.
I'M HERE TO ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE A FAIR TRIAL.
¡¿QUE?!
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
IS THIS HOW YOU "ENSURE A FAIR TRIAL," PUERCO?!!
BY DRUGGING THE ACCUSED?!
THAT INJECTION, CAPTAIN ALVAREZ, IS A HARMLESS VARIANT OF THE SUPER-SERUM THAT GAVE YOU YOUR HEIGHTENED STRENGTH AND AGILITY.
IT'S A DRUG YOUR BODY'S BEEN DENIED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN IMPRISONED.
THE JURY WANTS YOU ALERT AND COGNIZANT OF ALL THE CHARGES BEING LEVIED AGAINST YOU.
COURT IS NOW IN SESSION. CALL FORTH THE FIRST WITNESS!

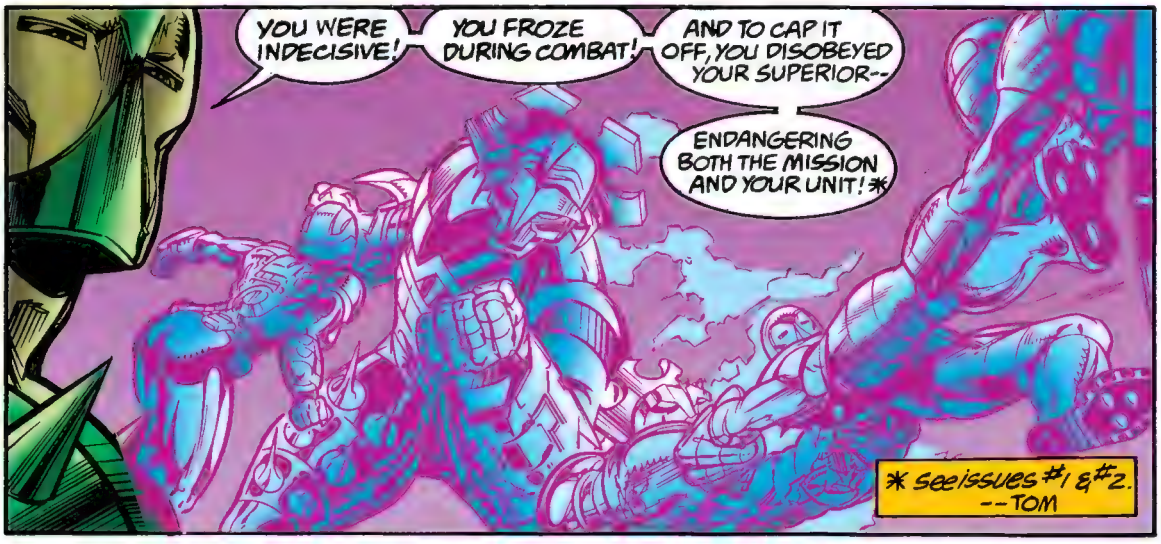

STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE COURT, PLEASE.
PADRE ENRIQUE LOPEZ.
AND COULD YOU TELL US OF YOUR ENCOUNTERS WITH THE TARANTULA?
I FIRST CAME ACROSS HIS HANDIWORK WHEN I HAD TO LAY ONE OF HIS VICTIMS TO REST--
ARMANDO RUIZ, A YOUNG MAN WHO ESCAPED THE DEATH SQUADS OF DELVADIA...
...ONLY TO DIE HERE IN THE LAND OF "FREEDOM."*
* SPEC #137. --TOM
THE FOLLOWING DAY, HE VIOLATED THE SANCTITY OF MY CHURCH...
...IN ORDER TO TORMENT A FAMILY OF REFUGEES WHO SOUGHT ITS SANCTUARY.
Photograph by P.PARKER
MONTHS LATER, HE TOOK ME HOSTAGE IN AN ATTEMPT TO LURE AND KILL SPIDER-MAN.*
* ASM #341. -- TOM
THE DEFENSE HAS ONLY ONE QUESTION, FATHER.
YES, MY SON?
DO YOU FORGIVE THE TARANTULA FOR HIS TRESPASS?
BUT OF COURSE!
NEXT WITNESS?


OFFICER MIKE DUGGAN, NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT.
I SEE YOU'VE BEEN AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR.
YES, MA'AM.
WOULD YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR RUN-IN WITH THE TARANTULA?
ME AND MY PARTNER WERE ASSIGNED AS EXTRA SECURITY FOR A STREET FAIR TO BENEFIT DELVADIAN REFUGEES.
SOME OF THE TARANTULA'S MEN SHOWED UP, PACKING SERIOUS HARDWARE.*
I TRIED TO GET THE CIVILIANS TO SAFETY, BUT BEFORE I COULD...
*ASM #341. --TOM
--THE TARANTULA CAME FROM BEHIND AND STABBED ME IN THE BACK!
I HAD AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO THE POISON IN HIS SPIKES.
TO THIS DAY, I'M PARALYZED FROM THE NECK DOWN.
THE TARANTULA'S BEEN KNOWN TO USE TWO KINDS OF TOXINS: ONE THAT STUNS AND ONE THAT KILLS.
WHICH DID HE USE ON YOU?
THE ONE THAT STUNS.
IS THERE ANY WAY THAT HE COULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT YOUR ALLERGIES?
NO, BUT...
THANK YOU, OFFICER.

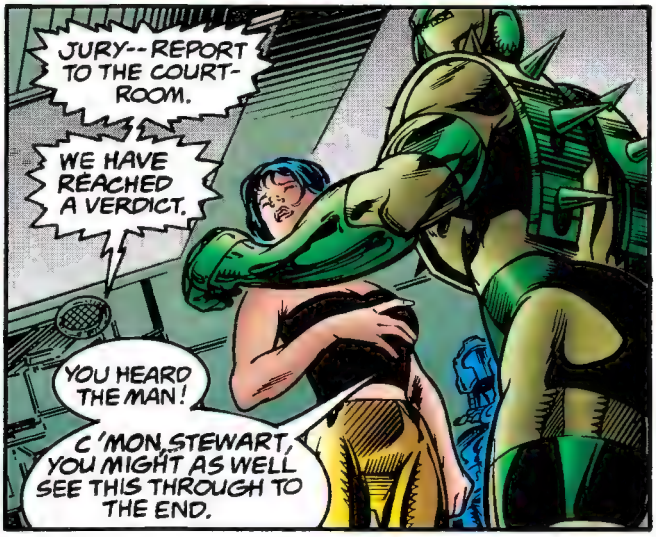

MY NAME'S HECTOR DELGADO, I'M A SCHOOL-TEACHER FROM CHICAGO.
A YEAR OR SO AGO, I WAS A PASSENGER ON A COMMERCIAL FLIGHT--
--THAT THE TARANTULA HIJACKED! *
"HE'D ALREADY KILLED ONE PASSENGER AND WAS PREPARED TO KILL MORE."
IF NOT FOR THE INTERFERENCE OF THE ANTI-TERRORIST CALLED SOLO...
* See MGP #124. --TOM
...I'M ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT HE WOULD HAVE MURDERED US ALL!
I JUST WANT TO GET A FEW FACTS STRAIGHT, MISTER DELGADO.
ALL OF THE PASSENGERS ON BOARD, INCLUDING YOURSELF, WERE DELVADIAN REFUGEES, CORRECT?
YES.
IN YOUR NATIVE LAND, YOU'RE ALL WANTED CRIMINALS.
WELL... YES...
THANK YOU.
IF MAX GETS THIS PUNK OFF, I SWEAR I'LL KILL HIM!
UM, WHICH "HIM"? THE TARANTULA OR MAX?
YO? BOMBLAST?


I HAVE ONE LAST WITNESS, YOUR HONOR.
A SOLDIER OF THE DELVADIAN ARMY WHO, UNDERSTANDABLY, WISHES TO KEEP HIS IDENTITY A SECRET.
TO THIS END, WE'RE SCRAMBLING HIS VISUAL TRANSMISSION.
I WAS THERE WHEN CAPTAIN ALVAREZ FIRST RECEIVED THE TARANTULA-SERUM.
WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT, ALVAREZ KILLED THE SERUM'S INVENTOR, DOCTOR MENDOZA.*
HE DID THIS FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN TO TEST HIS NEW-FOUND ABILITIES.
*See WEB #36. --TOM
WITNESS, DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A LOYAL DELVADIAN?
SI. ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE.
AND HOW DO MOST DELVADIANS VIEW LA TARANTULA?
WHY, HE IS OUR NATION'S GREATEST HERO.
THE DEFENSE RESTS.
COURT IS IN RECESS.
YOU WILL ALL ADJOURN UNTIL A VERDICT HAS BEEN REACHED.
WYSPER, FRONT AND CENTER! YOU'RE TO REPORT TO THE ARMORY, DOUBLE TIME!


THE ARMORY.
YOU'RE OUT!
THERE'S NO DEBATING IT, STEWART. YOU'RE OFF THE TEAM!
YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THE FIELD WAS A DISGRACE.
BUT...


YOU WERE INDECISIVE!
YOU FROZE DURING COMBAT!
AND TO CAP IT OFF, YOU DISOBEYED YOUR SUPERIOR--
ENDANGERING BOTH THE MISSION AND YOUR UNIT! *
* see issues #1 & #2. --TOM

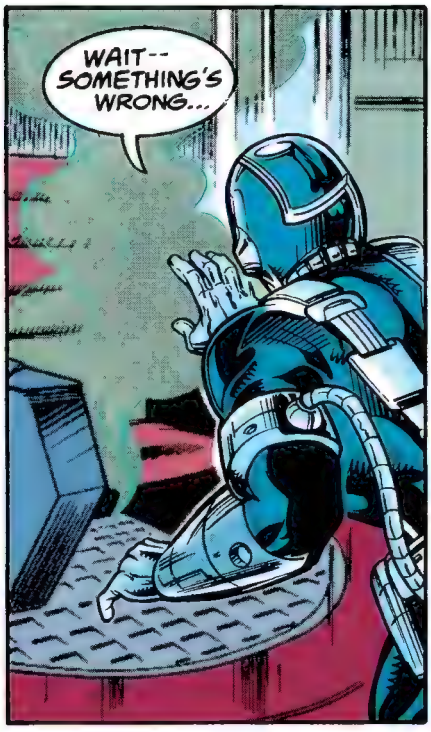

IF I HADN'T DISOBEYED, YOU'D BE DEAD, SIR.
WHAT WAS THAT, SOLDIER?!
NOTHING.


JURY-- REPORT TO THE COURT-ROOM.
WE HAVE REACHED A VERDICT.
YOU HEARD THE MAN!
C'MON, STEWART, YOU MIGHT AS WELL SEE THIS THROUGH TO THE END.


GUILTY
GUIL
PUERCOS!
I DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THIS COURT!
YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY OVER ME!
I AM THE TARANTULA! I AM--
SILENCE!
LUIS ALVAREZ, YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF CRIMES AGAINST THE COMMON MAN!
THE SENTENCE IS DEATH!
OH PAPA... DID YOU HEAR?
SÍ, MAMA, SÍ.
AT LAST, MY SON, THERE IS JUSTICE.
JUSTICE.
UNHAND ME, DOGS!
I WILL KILL YOU ALL!

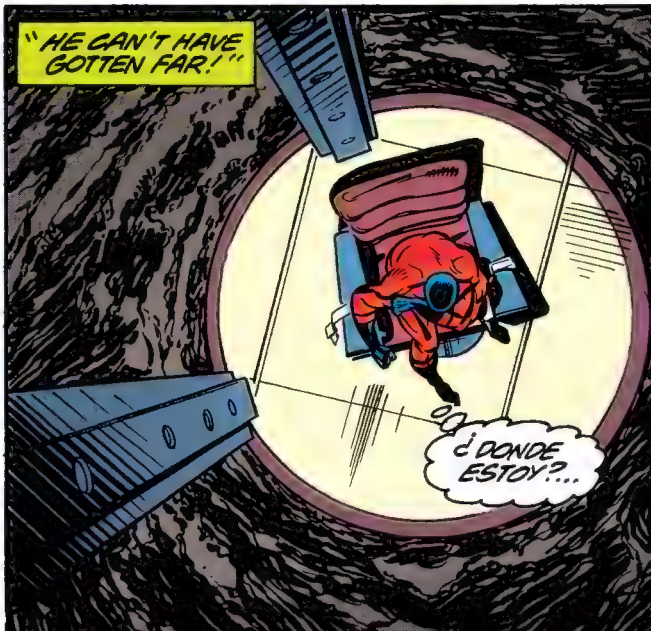

YOU'RE DEAD, PUERCOS!
ALL OF YOU! DEAD!
EVERYONE BACK, PLEASE.
SECURE THE CLAMPS.
AHH! LET GO!
DO YOU HEAR ME?!!
HNYYYAARH!
WUUM WUUM
SSSSSSSS
I'LL SEE YOU IN HE--
HAKK AKK
SSSSSSSSSSSSS


FORGIVE ME.
I TRIED. I REALLY DID.


WAIT-- SOMETHING'S WRONG...


HOLY #&*@!
HE'S GONE!


MAX! OLIVIA! GET THE CIVILIANS TO SAFETY!
EVERYONE ELSE--FAN OUT!


"HE CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR!"
¿DONDE ESTOY?...


THAT'S THE SECOND TIME TODAY YOU'VE ASKED THAT QUESTION.
LISTEN CAREFULLY, ALVAREZ. THIS IS YOUR ONE CHANCE FOR A REPRIEVE.
YOU?!
ON THE COUNTER IN FRONT OF YOU...
... ARE REASONABLE FACSIMILES OF YOUR WEAPONS AND POISONS.
THIS IS SOME KIND OF TRICK!
NO TRICK, I ASSURE YOU.
LET ME EXPLAIN...
"YOU SEE, YOU NEVER REALLY WERE THE ONE ON TRIAL."
THAT MADMAN COULD BE ANYWHERE!
GOT TO GET TO THE ARMORY!
GET SOME WEAPONS-- OR ONE OF THE SUITS!
GNNH!
NO USE! EVERYTHING'S LOCKED UP!
?
MY SONIC GAUNTLETS!


THIS WHOLE THING STINKS.
THE TARANTULA'S ESCAPE. MY GAUNTLETS.
SOMEONE'S PLAYING SOME SICK GAME HERE AND I DON'T--
CREEAK!
HUH?
NOTHING.
WHHSHHHHH
WHHSHHHH
EASY, GIRL.
STARTIN' TO JUMP AT YOUR OWN SHADOW.


IT'S HIM!
OH GOD! HE'S IN THE COURT-ROOM!
WHAT DO I DO?!
@*#S!
BETTER GET SENTRY AND THE OTHERS.
MMMPHHH!
SSHHH.
FIREARM! YOU SCARED THE @*#S OUTTA ME!
THE TARANTULA'S --IN THERE. I KNOW.
COME ON, SWEET CAKES, WE'RE GOING IN.
COUNT OF THREE. ONE. TWO...


THREE!
WHAM!
ALL RIGHT, I GOT HIM COVERED!
FLANK HIM, AND WE'LL TAKE HIM OUT!
SORRY, BABE...
...BUT YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
YOU KNOW THE DEAL, TARANTULA...
WHAT?!


HAAIII!
...KILL THE GIRL--
--AND YOU'RE FREE TO GO!
NO!
TO BE CONCLUDED!


THE COURTROOM OF EQUITY INC.
FIREARM! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?!
HE CANNOT HELP YOU, JENNIFER.
HEYAA!
THIS IS BETWEEN YOU AND THE TARANTULA...
GAVEL? YOU'RE IN ON THIS TOO?
THWAK
...TO THE DEATH.
HAIII!
SLASSH
AAAIII
WYSPER!



The JURY in TRIAL RUN

PART FOUR FINAL JUDGEMENT

DAN SLOTT- WRITER
JOHN CALIMEE- PENCILER
GREG ADAMS- INKER
JOHN COSTANZA- LETTERER
BERNARDO & CHI - COLORISTS
TOM BREVOORT- EDITOR
BOB BUDIANSKY- EDITOR IN CHIEF

Last time: Armed only with her sonic gauntlets, Wysper, the newest member of the Jury, had been forced into single combat against the deadly Tarantula...

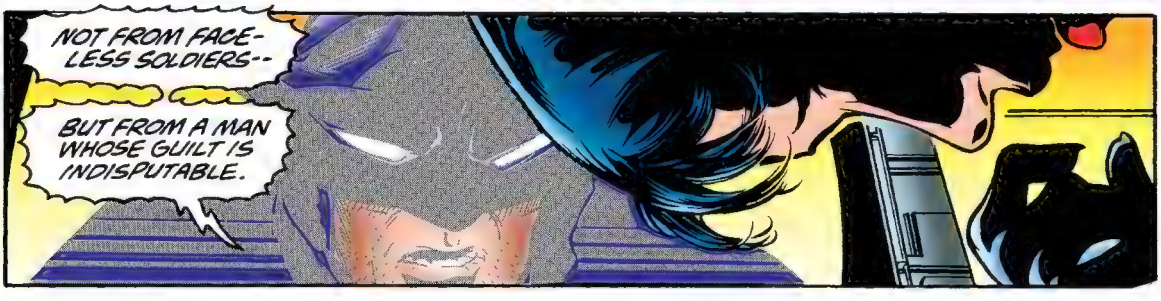

YOU GOING SOME-WHERE, LITTLE GIRL?
BASTA! IT'S OVER!
DEATH IS COMING FOR YOU.
THERE IS NO ESCAPE.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, ALVAREZ!
GO AND RUN THEN!
FOR THE FASTER YOUR BLOOD PUMPS...
...THE SOONER MY VENOM KILLS YOU!
SLAMM
GNNH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, JENNIFER?
GAVEL?
YOU WERE UP THERE FOR A PURPOSE, JURIST!
THERE IS A SENTENCE THAT NEEDS TO BE CARRIED OUT!


YOU HAD A SENSE OF DUTY ONCE, DIDN'T YOU, MS. STEWART?
UNNH
LEAVE ...ME... ALONE...
YOU WERE ONE OF THE FINEST GUARDS IN THE VAULT*.
UNTIL THE NIGHT OF THE BIG RIOT...
* The prison for Super-villains. --TOM


-- WHEN YOU LOST YOUR HUSBAND, RYAN.
SHUT UP!


WE GAVE YOU A PLACE HERE AS A JURIST.
A CHANCE TO REDEEM YOURSELF.


WHICH YOU REPAID BY FREEZING YOUR FIRST TIME IN BATTLE--
UNABLE TO OPEN FIRE ON THE ENEMY.
AND NOW?
NOW YOU RUN AWAY.


NOT FROM FACE-LESS SOLDIERS--
BUT FROM A MAN WHOSE GUILT IS INDISPUTABLE.


LOOK! FACE AFTER FACE OF THOSE HE'S KILLED!
THE TARANTULA DESERVES TO DIE!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!
I UNDERSTAND ALL RIGHT...
IN FACT, YOU COULD SAY...
I'M ON YOUR FREQUENCY!
SSSK
RREEEEE
AHHH! FEEDBACK!
KSHH!
KSHH!
SSSKKRRREEEEEEEEEE


OHHH
I'VE GOT YOU.
WHOA GIRL! CALM DOWN...
AAHHH!
EASY NOW, IT'S JUST ME.
SENTRY? THANK GOD!
YOU GOTTA HELP ME... FIREARM AND THE GAVEL, THEY'RE...
SSHH. EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, GIRL.
I'VE GOT A VIAL OF THE ANTIDOTE RIGHT HERE.
SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU'D COME THROUGH FOR ME, CAPTAIN...
WAIT... HOW'D YOU KNOW I WAS POI--
... AND YOU'LL GET IT JUST AS SOON AS YOU KILL THE TARAN-TULA!


STEP ASIDE, PUERCO!
I'VE FULFILLED MY PART OF THE BARGAIN!
WITH MY POISONS INSIDE HER, THE GIRL IS AS GOOD AS DEAD.
FAR FROM IT, MY FRIEND.
LOOK!
OF ALL THE STUBBORN--!
CHICA! LAY DOWN AND DIE ALREADY!
YOU GONNA TALK? OR ARE WE GONNA DO THIS?!


SHOW US WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF, BABE!
ON SECOND THOUGHT...
... I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS.
YOU CAN TAKE HIM, WYSPER!
HA!!!
NICE BLOCK!
THIS IS TOO EASY.
MY VENOM HAS MADE YOU SLOW AND SLUGGISH.

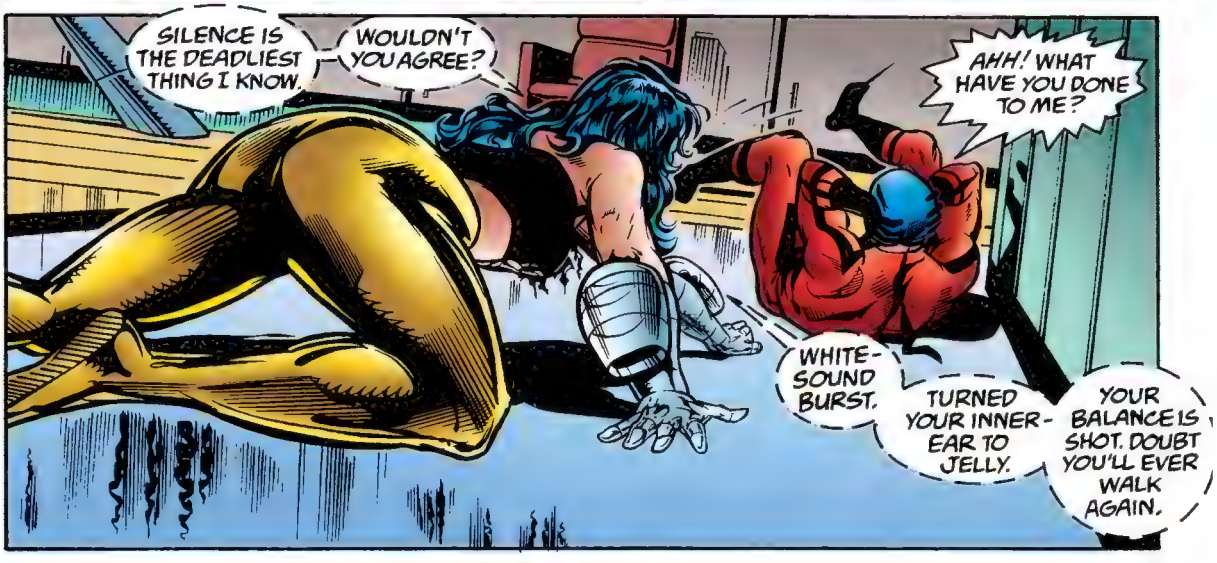

YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE STANDING STILL!
SLASHH
YAAAHH!
WELL THAT'S THAT.
SOMEONE CLOCK THIS.
I THINK I JUST WON THE OFFICE POOL.
DON'T COUNT HER OUT JUST YET, BOMBLAST.


QUE LASTIMA.
UNGHH
IT SEEMS THE TIME HAS COME...
...TO PUT AN END TO THIS FARCE!
BEG ME, CHICA, AND I MIGHT GRANT YOU A QUICK DEATH.
...
SPEAK UP GIRL, I CAN'T HEAR YOU...
HMMMMM


YEAH?
WELL LISTEN TO THIS!
HA! EMPTY SOUNDS, CHICA.
EMPTY THREATS.

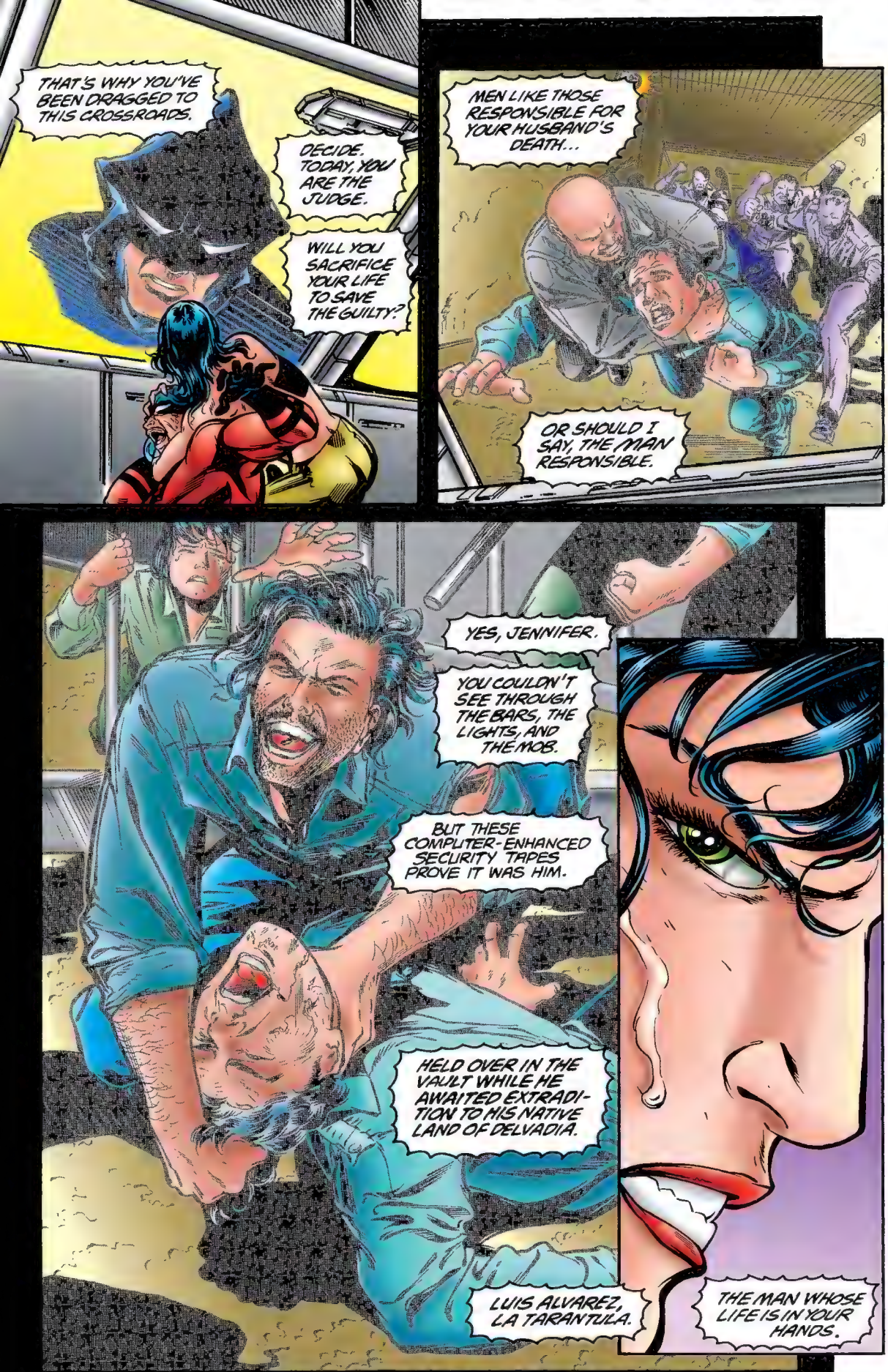

AND SOON, AN EMPTY CABEZA!


¡ADIO--
OO-
OOS...
SILENCE ISN'T EMPTY, ALVAREZ.
IT'S A BOTTLED SCREAM, READY TO EXPLODE.

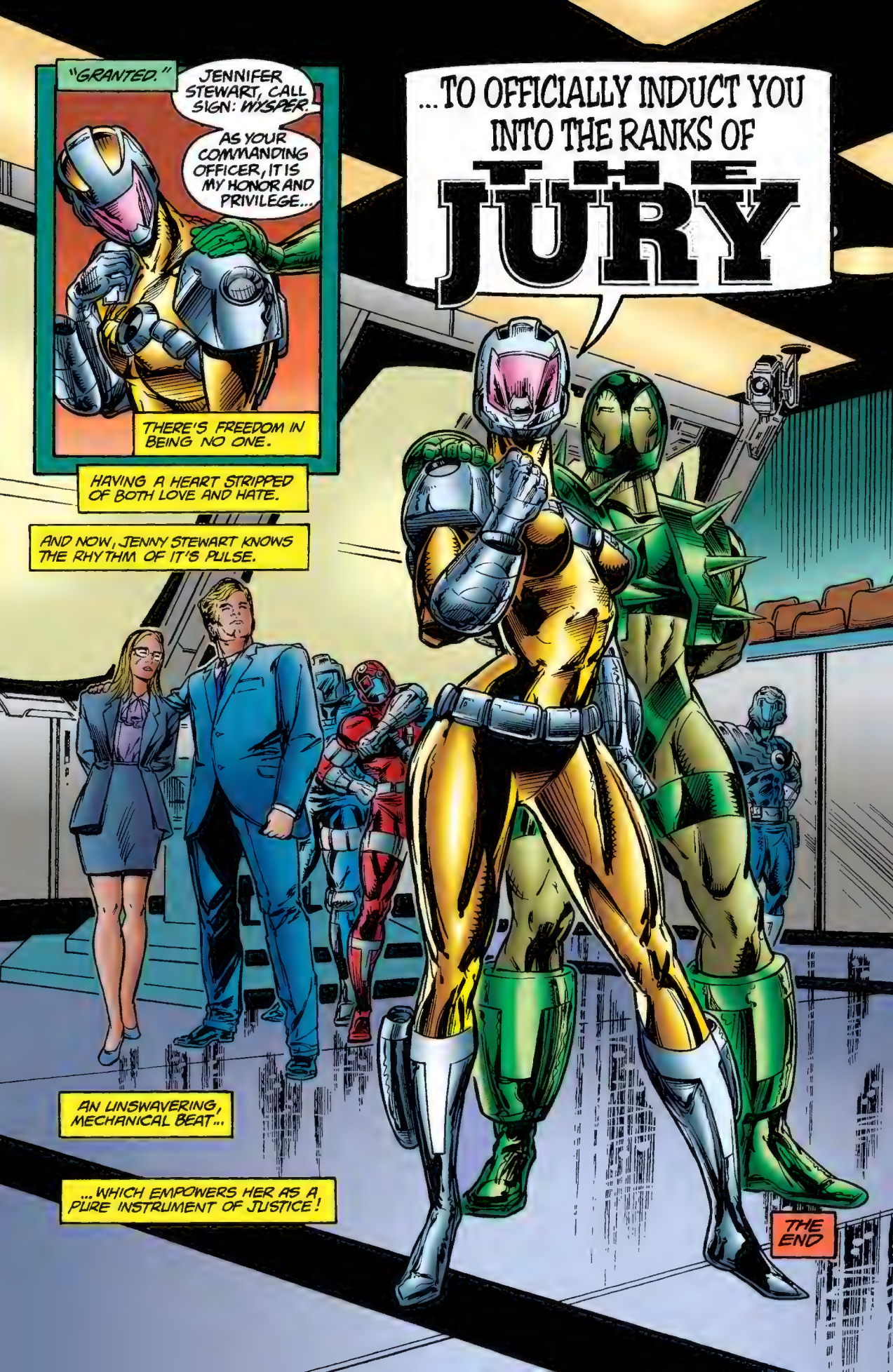

SILENCE IS THE DEADLIEST THING I KNOW.
WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
AHH! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?
WHITE-SOUND BURST.
TURNED YOUR INNER-EAR TO JELLY.
YOUR BALANCE IS SHOT. DOUBT YOU'LL EVER WALK AGAIN.


OR CHEW SOLID FOOD!
WOMM!
YEAH! YOU GOT HIM ON THE ROPES, KID!
WHAM!
NO TIME FOR ANYTHING FANCY, STEWART!
JUST FINISH HIM OFF!
YOU CAN DO IT, JENNY!
DO IT!
DO IT!
AKK AKK
DO IT!
AKK AKK
DO IT!


I... I CAN'T.
KOFF KAFF
I'M NO KILLER.
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE A FIRM GRASP ON THE SITUATION, SOLDIER!
YOU HAVE BEEN TAGGED TWICE WITH A FATAL POISON.
WE HAVE THE ONLY ANTIDOTE.
PLAIN AND SIMPLE: KILL HIM OR DIE!
THEN I GUESS...
...I'LL DIE.
YOUR COMPASSION IS REMARKABLE, MS. STEWART.
BUT IT'S CONFUSED YOU.
LED YOU ASTRAY FROM THE PATH OF ABSOLUTE JUSTICE!


THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN DRAGGED TO THIS CROSSROADS.
DECIDE. TODAY, YOU ARE THE JUDGE.
WILL YOU SACRIFICE YOUR LIFE TO SAVE THE GUILTY?
MEN LIKE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR HUSBAND'S DEATH...
OR SHOULD I SAY, THE MAN RESPONSIBLE.
YES, JENNIFER.
YOU COULDN'T SEE THROUGH THE BARS, THE LIGHTS, AND THE MOB.
BUT THESE COMPUTER-ENHANCED SECURITY TAPES PROVE IT WAS HIM.
HELD OVER IN THE VAULT WHILE HE AWAITED EXTRADITION TO HIS NATIVE LAND OF DELVADIA.
LUIS ALVAREZ, LA TARANTULA.
THE MAN WHOSE LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS.


KRAK
CAPTAIN?
YES?
PERMISSION TO RETURN TO DUTY?

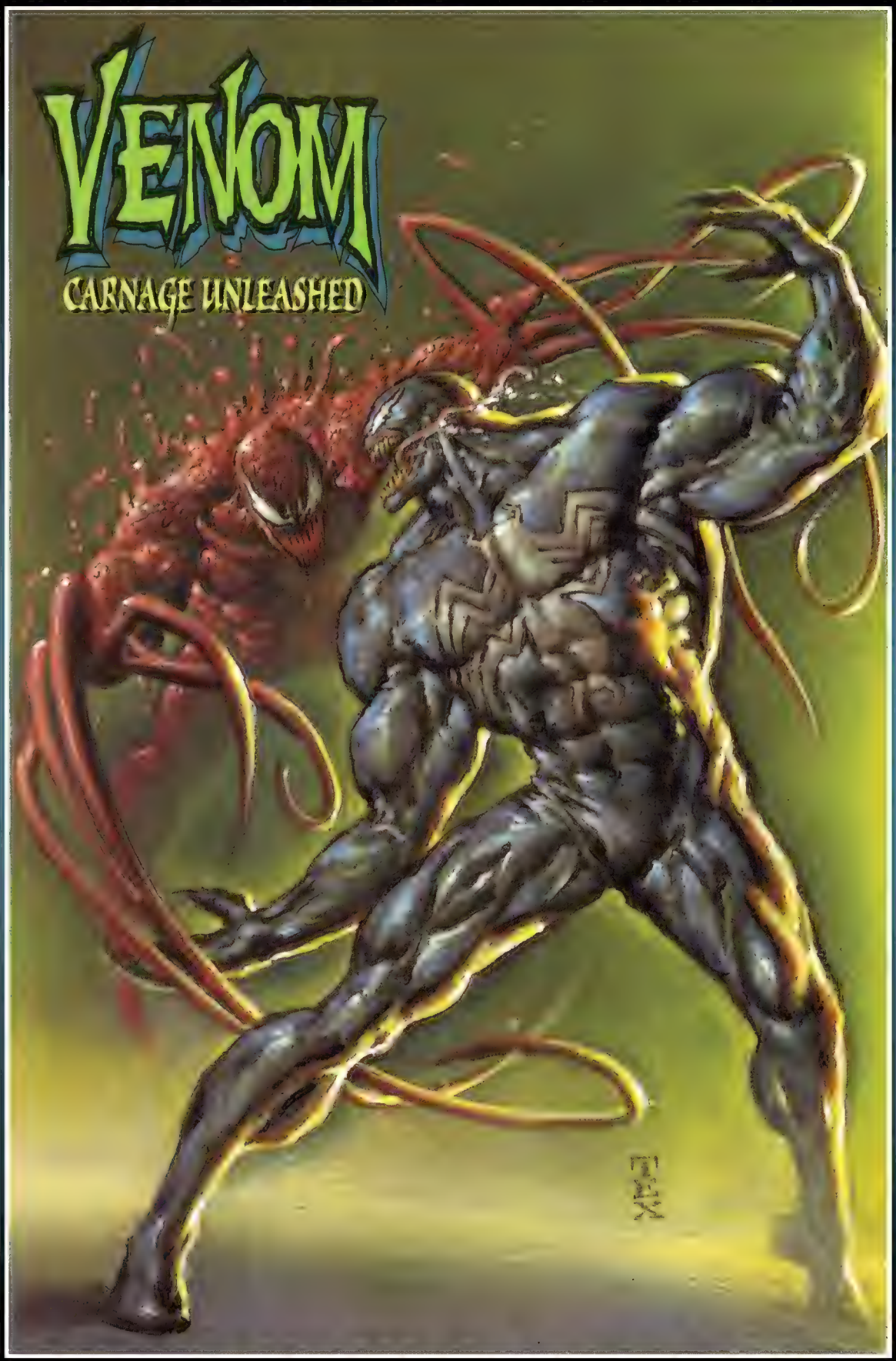

"GRANTED."
JENNIFER STEWART, CALL SIGN: WYSPER.
AS YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER, IT IS MY HONOR AND PRIVILEGE...
...TO OFFICIALLY INDUCT YOU INTO THE RANKS OF
THE JURY
THERE'S FREEDOM IN BEING NO ONE.
HAVING A HEART STRIPPED OF BOTH LOVE AND HATE.
AND NOW, JENNY STEWART KNOWS THE RHYTHM OF IT'S PULSE.
AN UNSWAVERING, MECHANICAL BEAT...
...WHICH EMPOWERS HER AS A PURE INSTRUMENT OF JUSTICE!
THE END

■ VENOM *POSTER INSIDE* ■ ACTION FIGURE *PRICE GUIDE* ■ NEW TOP 10 *THE NATION'S HOTTEST*

"AN ARACHNID IN A HARD PLACE"



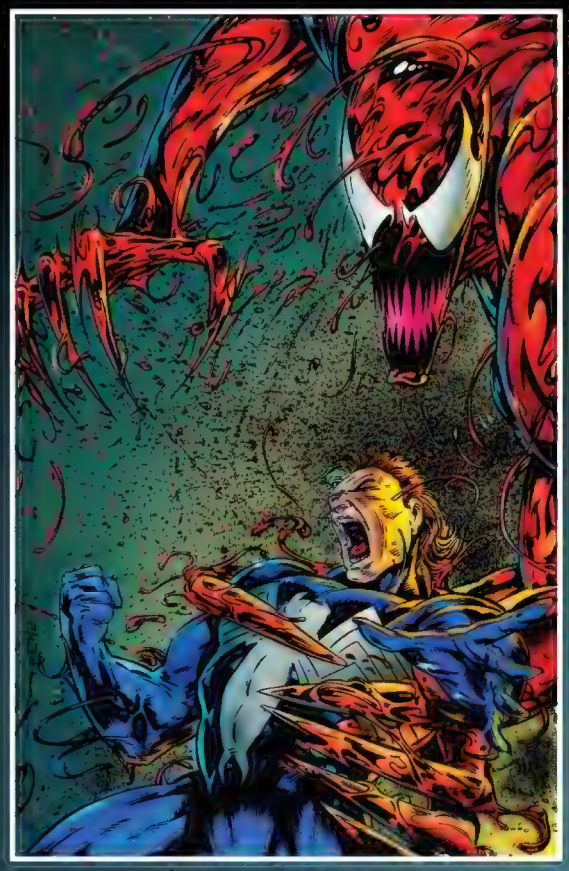
Wizard #18 foldout cover art by **Bart "Wittman" Sears** & **Mark McNabb**



Venom: Carnage Unleashed TPB (1996 1st edition) cover art by **Mark Texeira**



Venom: Carnage Unleashed #1 cover colors by **Paul Mounts**

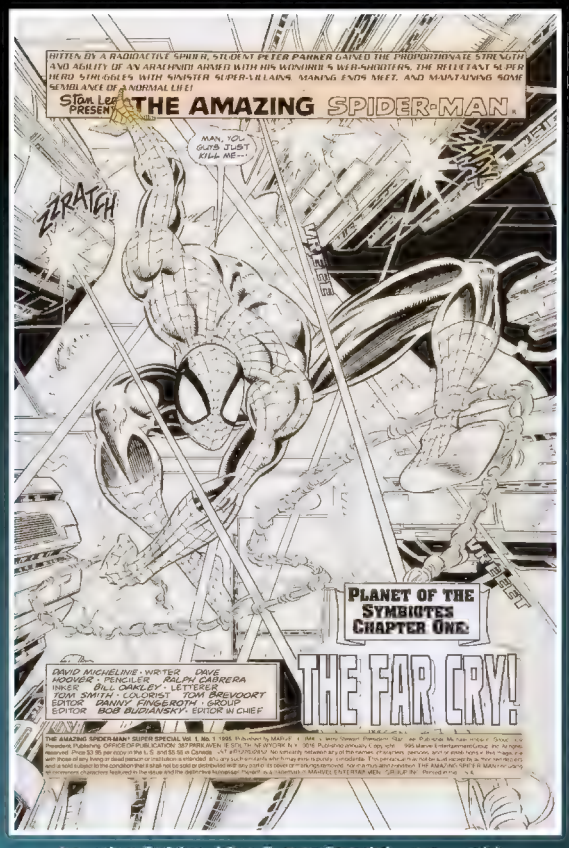


Venom: Carnage Unleashed #1 cover art by **Andrew Wildman** & **Paul Mounts**



Venom: Carnage Unleashed #1, pages 2–3 art by **Andrew Wildman**, **Art Nichols** & **Josef Rubinstein**

Courtesy of HeritageAuctions.com



Amazing Spider-Man Super Special, page 1 art by **Dave Hoover** & **Ralph Cabrera**



Amazing Spider-Man Super Special, page 4 art by **Dave Hoover** & **Ralph Cabrera**



Amazing Spider-Man Super Special, page 21 art by **Dave Hoover** & **Ralph Cabrera**



Venom Super Special, page 28 art by **Mark Bagley** & **Arne Starr**

Courtesy of HeritageAuctions.com



Venom: Sinner Takes All #1, page 23 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #1, page 24 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #2, page 24 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #2, page 28 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**

Courtesy of HeritageAuctions.com



Venom: Sinner Takes All #2, page 30 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #3, page 24 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #3, page 26 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #3, page 28 art by **John Calimee** & **Greg Adams**

Courtesy of HeritageAuctions.com



Venom: Sinner Takes All #4, page 29 art by
John Calimee & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #4, page 30 art by
John Calimee & **Greg Adams**



Venom: Sinner Takes All #4, page 32 art by
John Calimee & **Greg Adams**

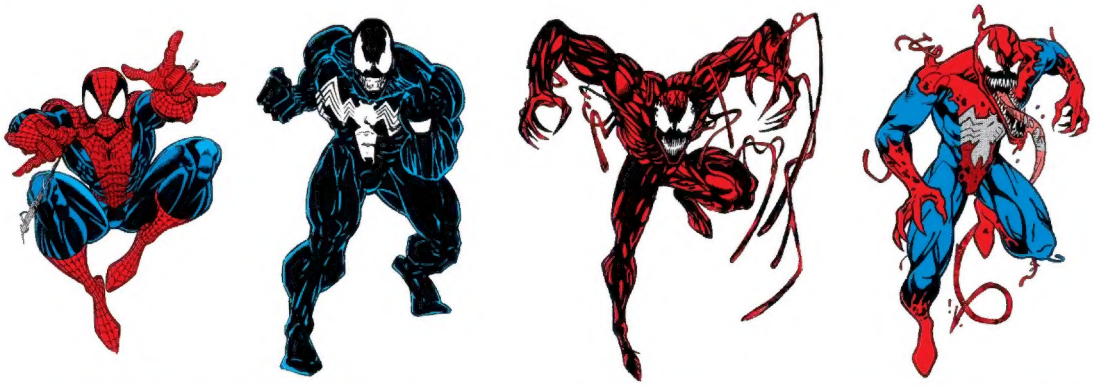
Courtesy of HeritageAuctions.com

Good: ***Spider-Man***
Super hero with the proportionate strength of a spider

Better: ***Venom***
Obsessed lunatic with the proportionate strength of a spider

Even Better: ***Carnage***
Crazed serial killer with the proportionate strength of a spider

Best: ***Bile***
Cannibalistic madman with the proportionate strength and grotesque eating habits of a spider



MarvelYear-in-Review '93 "Bring On the Bad Guys" parody article by **Tom Brevoort** & **Mike Kanterovich**



VENOM STARS IN TALES OF VIOLENCE AND VENGEANCE!

When the video game "Carnage Unleashed" becomes a hit, it provides the psychopathic Cletus Kasady with the opportunity to gain his freedom — and renew his sadistic reign of terror on the streets! The only way to stop a bad symbiote? A good(ish) symbiote! Blood will flow as Venom takes on Carnage! Then, when killer vigilante Sin-Eater strikes, Eddie Brock's ex-wife is caught in the crossfire. To survive, must she become the bride of Venom? Plus: Spider-Man and the Scarlet Spider stand by Eddie's side when an alien invasion threatens to turn Earth into the Planet of the Symbiotes!

Collecting ***Venom: Carnage Unleashed* #1–4**; ***Venom: Sinner Takes All* #1–5**, and material from ***Amazing Spider-Man Super Special* #1**, ***Spider-Man Super Special* #1**, ***Venom Super Special* #1**, ***Spectacular Spider-Man Super Special* #1** and ***Web of Spider-Man Super Special* #1** — written by Larry Hama, Dan Slott, Marv Wolfman and David Michelinie; and illustrated by Andrew Wildman, Greg Luzniak, John Calimee, Ted Halsted, Gabriel Gecko, Dave Hoover, Joe St. Pierre, Kyle Hotz, Darick Robertson and Steve Lightle.



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